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*Soc. & Rural Life*  
*Bulletin Sept. 1949*

The Social Science Bulletin

PRESENTS

PAPERS OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE ROUND TABLE

OF

MISSISSIPPI STATE COLLEGE

SERIES ONE. (SPRING, 1949)

[v. 1, no. 1]-

STATE COLLEGE, MISSISSIPPI

July, 1949

#### FOREWORD

The Social Science Bulletin herewith presents the text of the three papers delivered during the Spring series of meetings of the Social Science Round Table of Mississippi State College.

The Social Science Round Table is an informal organization consisting of Social Scientists and interested persons from related fields at Mississippi State College. During the Spring of 1949, three dinner meetings were held, at each of which one of the Social Science departments assumed the responsibility of providing the speaker. Attendance was surprisingly good at all of the sessions, and the response to the program of lectures was very encouraging. It has been felt that the papers delivered at these meetings are of sufficient importance to have them mimeographed for distribution. The Division of Sociology and Rural Life has generously contributed the greater part of the supply of paper for the project. The Department of History and Government has prepared the stencils and done the printing. It is hoped that in the future we may be able to issue regularly each semester a collection of the current Round Table papers.

John K. Bettersworth

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Dr. William H. Nicholls, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Vanderbilt University, delivered the first of the spring series of lectures before the Social Science Round Table. His subject, AGRICULTURAL 'PARITY' AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS, dealt with one of the most provocative issues confronting the makers of American farm policies. Dr. Nicholls' remarks have become even more pertinent since the appearance of the so-called Brannan Plan, in which Nicholls finds some virtues. His reaction to the Brannan Plan was the subject of an article in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, May 15, 1949.

Dr. Nicholls is author of a farm plan of his own, having won a five thousand dollar prize in a contest several years ago for an essay on national farm price policy. The contest, in which he won first place, was sponsored by the American Farm Economics Association.

Dr. Nicholls was born in Lexington, Ky., 35 years ago, July 18. He earned an A.B. degree from the University of Kentucky, then went to Harvard for an M.A. and a Ph.D.

Meanwhile, he worked summers on his father's Kentucky farm, held a job as statistical clerk with the tobacco section of AAA, and worked as a field agent in New England for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Dr. Nicholls was a research fellow and research assistant to Professor John D. Black at Harvard for three terms, then went to Iowa State College, where he was an instructor and research associate, an assistant professor, and then an associate professor.

He was research associate and assistant professor of agricultural economics at the University of Chicago after leaving Iowa State. In Chicago he edited the Journal of Political Economy, and now helps edit the American Economics Review.

Dr. Nicholls was a visiting lecturer at the Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in the summer of 1947. This summer he will be a member of the faculty at the Salzburg, Austria, Seminar in American Studies.

He has traveled widely, but he has found time to author several books on the subjects with which he is most familiar. His books include Imperfect Competition Within Agricultural Industries, War-time Government in Operation and Labor Productivity Functions in Meat Packing.

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa, the American Farm Economics Association and the Southern Economic Association.

Dr. Nicholls went to Vanderbilt University last Fall. With his appointment as professor of agricultural economics, Vanderbilt became the first independent Southern university to recognize a need for graduate training in agricultural economics.



## AGRICULTURAL 'PARITY' AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS

William H. Nicholls  
Vanderbilt University

A century and a half ago, the gloomy clergyman, Malthus, foresaw the day when the population would have outgrown the food supply. Contemporary British thinkers accepted his prediction, expecting that an over-increasing percentage of the population would have to be engaged in agricultural pursuits. Even in 1898, one of Britain's most eminent scientists (Sir William Crookes), predicted that, by 1931, the population of the Western World would have outrun prospective wheat supplies. Such countries as China and India clearly indicate that, under certain conditions, the Malthusian doctrine is essentially correct. But we now know that, in the Western World at least, the exact opposite has been true. That is, the supplies of agricultural products have grown far more rapidly than the demand for them. Those familiar with American agriculture hardly need to be reminded that our present and prospective farm problem is one of "surpluses" far more than one of "shortages."

For the more highly-developed countries of the world, why did Malthus miss the mark so widely? First, he failed to foresee that -- as a country becomes more urban and industrial -- its population grows at a rapidly diminishing rate. Second, as economic progress raises standards of living, people do not expand their consumption of foods and fibers nearly as rapidly as their incomes increase. Rather, having already largely satisfied their demands for necessary food and clothing, they spend their additional income primarily upon industrial products, luxury goods, and personal and professional services. For these reasons, the overall demand for agricultural products in the more advanced countries has been increasing very slowly, not rapidly. Third, Malthus assumed that there was little possibility of technological progress in agriculture. In fact, however, the strides in agricultural technology have been at least as spectacular as those of industry. Developments in plant and animal breeding, improved cultivation practices and rapid mechanization have created a virtual "agricultural revolution", the full effects of which still lie ahead. We are, therefore, faced with the prospect of agricultural production far outstripping demand.

Thus, American farm leaders are correct in arguing that our agriculture still must look forward to a definite "surplus" problem. What they tend to overlook, however, is of what our "surplus" consists. Fundamentally, American agriculture's problem is one of "surplus" farmers. Historically, every advanced country of the world has shown a steadily declining proportion of its working population engaged in agriculture, until recently an increasing proportion in manufacturing, and a rapidly rising proportion in the service industries (transportation, wholesaling and retailing, personal and professional services, etc.). Since 1890, the percentage of all American workers engaged in agriculture has fallen from 42 to 14 percent. Yet, even under the extremely favorable circumstances of 1947, the average net income of agricultural workers was only 81 percent of that of industrial workers; and the per capita net income of all persons on farms was only 45 percent of that of persons not on farms.<sup>1</sup> Both these percentages are now

<sup>1</sup>These figures may be compared with averages of 45 percent and 26 percent, respectively, for 1935-39.

certainly headed sharply downward once more. Hence, it does not appear likely that per capita incomes in American agriculture will soon approach a "parity" with average incomes for comparable work in the rest of the economy. The goal of income parity for agriculture, desirable though it may be, cannot be realized until the number of workers in the agricultural sector is reduced considerably further below present levels.

Existing agricultural legislation has sought to solve the problem of low agricultural income through the attainment of "parity prices." One objective has been to restore the relationship between farm prices and prices in the rest of the economy that existed in 1910-14. Unfortunately, such a price policy is an ineffective and inappropriate means of solving agriculture's income problem. One-half of the nation's farms produce only 10 percent by value of its total farm products. Arbitrary price-raising, though carried far, cannot solve their economic problem because they have too little product to sell. Incomes in much of American agriculture (particularly in the South) are relatively low because many of its agricultural workers produce little. They produce little because, though they work hard and long, there are too many of them relative to the land and capital each has to work with.

The problem of low agricultural incomes depends basically upon raising the productivity of those who remain in agriculture, while finding suitable non-farm employment for those who can produce more elsewhere. Both groups, by producing more, will not only enjoy an improved personal scale of living but will thereby contribute far more to the national welfare. If the productivity of those remaining in agriculture is to be raised, the average size of the farm unit must be increased to a level at which a single family -- with little hired labor and the best available mechanical assistance -- can produce efficiently and receive a satisfactory income. More adequate public farm credit, based upon realistic, generously supported farm-management research -- can do much to promote this necessary development. (On the other hand, public support for subsistence farming should be scrupulously avoided.)

Such an efficient organization of American agriculture can be attained, however, only if the excess labor supply in agriculture is steadily reduced. In view of the high differential birth rates in agriculture, the movement of people out of agriculture in sufficient numbers is at best difficult. But, as the experience of the past decade has shown, as long as remunerative non-agricultural employment exists, excess agricultural workers will leave agriculture in large numbers. This exodus should be welcomed, not viewed with alarm. In fact, public policy should actively promote the mobility of agricultural workers. It can do so by various means. It can seek to maintain stable and high-level employment in the manufacturing and service industries, so that alternative job opportunities exist; it can encourage the industrialization of disadvantaged areas; it can disseminate widely employment information and subsidize costs of moving to new jobs; it can eliminate union barriers to expanding employment; and it can generously support rural education, health, nutrition and housing, all of which will add to the vigor and productivity of a major part of our next generation. Such policies will strike at the causes of low agricultural income while agricultural price policy cannot possibly do so.

Obviously, an efficient and productive agriculture cannot be created overnight. Yet I make no apologies for beginning this discussion with so longrun a view. Above all else, like most political processes, current public policy for agriculture lacks perspective. Without that perspective, we shall continue to confuse symptoms with causes, permitting American agriculture's present serious malady to become chronic, not cured. Since 1933, the Government has sought to solve the very real problem of low aggregate and per capita incomes in agriculture by direct interference with the workings of the pricing mechanism. Such a procedure is like trying to make a room warmer by boiling the thermometer. Like the thermometer, prices are merely a recording device. Relatively low agricultural prices simply register the symptomatic fact that basic maladjustments exist. Agricultural legislation has erroneously assumed, however, that low agricultural prices are the cause of agricultural distress. It has, therefore, used all sorts of price-raising devices in a futile effort to redistribute national income in favor of agriculture. In putting prices to this incongruous use, agricultural price policy has prevented prices from performing the one function for which they are well fitted -- the guidance of production within agriculture.

It is the proper function of the pricing mechanism to reflect back to producers the changing consumer demands for different agricultural products. By registering relatively low prices, the price system informs farmers that certain agricultural products should be produced in smaller quantities; by registering relatively high prices, that the production of other products should be expanded. Upon the basis of this information, farmers can correct existing maladjustments by shifting some of their resources from production of products with lower demands to those more in demand. By this process, agricultural prices play a socially-desirable role in guiding production and using agricultural resources efficiently. By raising low agricultural prices directly, before such necessary shifts in production have taken place, agricultural policy has hamstringed the guiding function of the price system. It has also necessitated the use of direct controls -- such as production and marketing quotas -- to prevent an unlimited piling up of "surplus" stocks.

The most objectionable aspect of the agricultural legislation currently in force, is its provision of parity-price goals for individual farm products. In effect, Congress has directed the Department of Agriculture to reestablish the same set of relative prices within agriculture which prevailed in the base period -- 1910 - 14 for most products. Price relationships of 1910-14 grossly distort the pattern of today's consumer choices, based upon far different needs and tastes than those of 35-40 years ago. During the same period, there have also been marked changes in the relative costs of producing different agricultural products. These and other important changes are ignored by this use of the historically-based parity-price concept. Consequently, the parity formula has over-valued most crops and under-valued livestock in comparison with the relative prices necessary to meet current consumer needs.

In 1938, Congress became dissatisfied with the slow progress being made toward attainment of "parity prices" by the use of production and marketing quotas. It therefore perverted the original objective of the commodity storage program from one of stabilizing grain and cotton utilization to one of raising their prices, without regard for current demand or supply conditions. It did so by trying minimum commodity-loan

rates to the 1910-14 relationship -- 52-75 percent of parity, later raised to 85 percent, then to 90-90½ percent of parity. For cotton, additional restrictions were imposed upon the price and quantity of sales from government stocks. As a result, government-owned surpluses reached unprecedented levels. Only the intervention of the war, with its insatiable demands, saved the storage program from a major fiasco. Excess stocks were depleted. And, as inflation took command, market prices of farm products soared above support levels, permitting basic economic forces once more freely to determine relative price levels.

The Agricultural Act of 1948, passed during the closing hours of the 80th Congress, promises at least some improvement in agricultural price policy. First, it redefines the parity formula, substituting a moving base period of the most recent 10 years for 1910-14. The effect will be to lower the parity prices of wheat, corn, cotton, peanuts, and potatoes; and to raise the parity prices of dairy products, livestock and tobacco. These changes will bring the parity prices of most products more nearly into line with the relative levels required to bring about needed shifts in production within agriculture. The use of a moving and recent base period will undoubtedly assure a set of relative prices more closely related to current consumer demands than did the fixed and distant base of 1910-14. Second, some flexibility in the level of support prices (principally effectuated through commodity loans) has been introduced once more. The Act specifies that price floors shall vary from a low of 60 percent of parity when the supply exceeds 130 percent of "normal" to a high of 90 percent when the supply falls below 70 percent of "normal." Thus, some assurance is given that excessive production of specific products will be discouraged by the fixing of lower support levels. The Act will not take effect until Jan. 1, 1950, however; and provisions for making the transition from higher to lower parity prices gradually may delay the full applicability of the Act until 1952 or 1953.

In view of the strait-jacket into which Congress has forced farm prices during the past decade, even these small relaxations of present rigid controls are to be welcomed. Nevertheless, the merits of recent changes can be easily overrated. First, agricultural price policy is still backward-looking. The initial 10-year base period, 1940 to 1949, will fall far short of providing a satisfactory set of normal price relationships within agriculture. Embedded in this base period are pre-war price supports, wartime price ceilings, and postwar inflation -- all results of highly abnormal conditions. A number of years will be required before the base period is free of these unusual influences. Second, the gain in flexibility of support prices is only relative. There is still less flexibility than that provided even by the 1938 legislation, which provided a range of support levels from 52 to 75 percent of parity. And the objective of the commodity storage program continues to be primarily price manipulation rather than stabilization of physical utilization.

The recent fall of wheat and corn prices below present support levels, of 90 percent of parity appears to have alarmed farmers a great deal. Predictions are being freely made that, because of prospects of surpluses, the support level on cotton might drop as low as 60 percent of parity, in 1950, even under full-



employment conditions. A determined drive to eliminate flexible price supports before they go into operation may, therefore, be anticipated. Such a drive, though likely to succeed, is apt to boomerang against agriculture's longrun interests in two important ways. First, under present inflationary conditions, the public has suddenly awakened to the fact that agricultural policy may contribute considerably to the high cost of food and fibers. It knows that farm prices have skyrocketed far above normal levels since price controls were lifted. True, except for eggs and potatoes, price supports cannot yet be fairly blamed for high consumer prices. But irresponsible raising of price supports can effectively block some necessary downward adjustments in consumer prices during the next year or two. Under present conditions, if price floors are held too high, the political repercussions may be far reaching. Protestations about high middle-man profits and relatively low average levels of agricultural income will hardly be convincing when the glare of public opinion is focussed upon the extraordinary prosperity which most commercial farmers have been enjoying recently. Historically, agriculture has received public goodwill to an extent which organized labor must envy. It can hardly afford to take such general public support lightly. The day may come when goodwill will be of crucial importance to agriculture.

Second, the abolition of flexible price supports will prevent necessary adjustments in agriculture during a time in which they can most easily be made. So long as full employment continues, agriculture as a whole will be relatively prosperous. Under these conditions, declines in the prices of agricultural products will be specific, not general. So long as farmers have alternative products which they can produce profitably, there is no excuse for holding prices of specific products high by arbitrary means. Take cotton, for example. Given continued full-employment conditions during the next decade, a support price for cotton of 60 percent of parity could be a blessing in disguise. With alternative employment freely available outside of agriculture, a considerable drop in cotton prices would accomplish much to put cotton production back on its own feet. It could speed the consolidation of hill farms into larger, more efficient units. It would give strong and relatively painless impetus to mechanization of cotton production. It would shift production to the more fertile, level areas in which costs are relatively low. It would place cotton once more on a sound competitive basis with rayon in the domestic market and with other cotton-producing countries in foreign markets. It would encourage much-needed diversification into livestock and other profitable enterprises. It would raise incomes and scales of living for both those leaving agriculture and those who remain. And it would at last bring cotton production into line with prospective demand conditions. To avoid severe hardships during the adjustment process, however, the Government should stand ready to make adequate income payments to those who take specific steps which will facilitate this conversion of the cotton economy to an efficient basis.

Even if this is much too optimistic a picture, consider the alternative. If we continue indefinitely to support cotton prices at 90 percent of parity, surpluses are certain to pile up in government hands. Though present carry-overs are relatively small, it will not take many years to fill out storage bins to

the bursting point. At some stage --- whether it be 10, 20, or 30 million bales --- such fabulously wasteful stockpiling must ultimately come to a halt. Meanwhile, cotton will have continued to price itself out of the domestic and foreign markets. Marketing quotas will cause many small farmers and workers to hang on by the skin of their teeth instead of shifting out of agriculture while they can. At the same time, their incomes will still be far below those of farmers and workers in other regions. Other necessary adjustments --- increasing size of farm, mechanization, and shifts in production areas --- will also be impeded. Arbitrarily high cotton prices will only have aggravated the cotton problem. A cure will be more distant than ever.

In my view, given continuing high levels of employment, choice of this second alternative will be extremely short sighted, even ostrich-like behavior. But, you may rightly ask, what if general economic depression is just around the corner? My reply is that, whether it is or not, farmers have a legitimate claim for advance assurances of protection against this eventuality. In our highly unstable economy, agriculture may for a time gain lavishly from war and inflation. But farmers haven't forgotten that economic instability is a two-edged sword. When depression strikes, agriculture is especially vulnerable. Farm-product prices always fall fastest and hardest. On its own, agriculture maintains production even in the face of ruinously low prices. Its declining income expectations are quickly reflected in falling land values. And unneeded labor moves back into agriculture despite the necessity of a steady outflow of workers into the rest of the economy. The growing opposition to flexible price supports probably reflects, in part at least, the fact that most farmers fear a general postwar deflation. Until these overpowering fears are allayed by appropriate public policy, we can hardly hope to win farmer acceptance of sounder agricultural legislation.

This might be done if the next Congress would provide a system of compensatory payments for agriculture under depression conditions. Under this proposal, the Government would (in effect) guarantee that the price of any farm product would not fall below (say) 85 percent of its pre-depression level. A depression would be deemed to exist if unemployment rose above about 5 percent of the labor force (about 3 millions). So long as unemployment was above this level, farmers would continue to sell their products for whatever they would bring. But, if these market prices fell below the 85 percent guarantee, the Government would make payments to producers compensating for the difference. Such a policy would assure farmers of a cushion against deflation. It would also make certain that farmers will not be severely penalized for their socially-commendable practice of continuing full production even in times of business depression. Finally, by permitting consumer prices to seek their own levels, this policy would meet continuing consumer needs. I would therefore avoid the disadvantages of direct price supports, which must involve withholding product from the market by production controls and excessive storage.

At best, however, specific agricultural legislation against depression offers only rear-guard action. Price and income instability is fundamentally a problem of our economy as a whole, not of agriculture alone. Agriculture's greatest concern should therefore be that of developing general public policies which will



put and keep the whole economy on an even keel. We have been so anxious to prevent a new deflation, that control of our present serious inflation has gone largely by default. If agriculture is to receive the protection against deflation which it deserves, it must recognize its own important role in the inflationary period through which we have been passing. There are signs that agriculture may now have reached a point in the inflation race where it will not find it so easy to hold its lead against other major economic groups. Nonetheless it can, if it chooses, seek to maintain its maximum position of 1947-48. As a matter of elementary justice, however, it cannot claim its right to such a position any more than labor can fairly measure its current real wages only in terms of their peak position of 1946 (prior to the lifting of price ceilings).

Agriculture would be much wiser to recognize that some downward adjustment in consumer prices of foods and fibers is essential to the general public interest at the present time. It is now well able to absorb some of the shock. By reducing the forced draft which present food and fiber costs have put under labor's wage demands, agriculture can at least slow down the mounting fires of inflation. In so doing, it can put a damper on the steadily rising costs of goods farmers buy and can help to head off the inevitable bust which such a boom portends. Its justifiable opposition to consumer price controls would then have a more convincing ring. Continuing full employment and a more stable general price level are vital to agriculture's longrun readjustment and well being. They can be realized only if our overall monetary-fiscal policies are thoroughly overhauled. On the monetary side, the Federal Reserve System should be given the powers of controlling credit expansion (and contraction) commensurate with its responsibilities. On the fiscal side, a budgetary surplus and debt retirement (undoubtedly at the cost of higher income taxes) should become the major objective until deflation threatens. When it does, fiscal techniques should be thrown into reserve. In its own interest, agriculture should put its full weight behind those general measures, which if adopted can provide it with a strong first line of defense against economic instability.

Up to now, I have said only a few words about commodity storage policy. My comments have been critical because storage policy has been badly abused as a mere adjunct of unsound agricultural price policy. It should be emphasized, however, that storage has an important social contribution to make if it is properly used. Besides the instability stemming from its inter-relationships with our market economy, agriculture has certain unique instabilities of its own. The yields and total production of farm crops fluctuate considerably because of the vagaries of nature. And, in the absence of adequate storage policy, variations in the availability of feed grains are quickly reflected in unstable production of livestock. These important elements of production instability cause additional fluctuations in farm prices and incomes which storage can largely prevent. The original concept of an "ever-normal granary" was basically sound. Loan rates were to be fixed at such levels as to bring certain farm products into storage in years of large crops and to release them from storage in years of small crops. Hence, the amounts actually marketed were to be stabilized, benefitting producers and consumers alike by a steady flow of product and more stable prices over time.

As I have already indicated, however, Congress soon raised minimum loan rates to very high levels and

restricted sales of our stocks. Administrators could not, therefore, accomplish the original objectives of the storage program. Storage became a one-way street -- farm products could move in but never out, prices upward but never down. The inevitable consequence was that, until it was bailed out by the war, the supposedly ever-normal granary became "ever more abnormal." Yet the lesson does not appear to have been learned. A repeat performance appears to be in the cards, unless compensatory payments are substituted for storage as a means of counteracting cyclical changes in farm price levels and of avoiding necessary secular adjustments within agriculture. In conjunction with compensatory payments, however, Congress can restore storage policy to a socially-useful role. To do so, it must divorce the storage program completely from parity or other price objectives and set standards of performance in strictly physical terms. The correction of price fluctuations not due to changes in physical production will have to be made by other means.

Apart from those measures for assuring farmers of greater economic stability, how could agricultural price policy be improved? If parity price were abandoned, what then? As a guide to agricultural production and the efficient use of agricultural resources, free market prices are clearly superior to any kind of backward-looking set of parity prices. But they still fall far short of the ideal. In our uncertain world, market prices are by no means an infallible guide to production. First, they are highly variable from one week or month to the next. Second, because farm production takes considerable time, current market prices frequently give a completely false impression of what future prices will be. Thus, currently high hog prices lead farmers to expand production only to find that prices are low when their hogs are ready for market. Such undesirable effects of price uncertainty could be eliminated if Congress would institute a program of forward prices for agriculture. Under forward pricing, the Department of Agriculture would set a production goal for each farm product, based upon anticipated consumer demand. It would announce guaranteed minimum prices at the beginning of each production period. Each forward price would be fixed at that level (and no higher) which would probably call forth just enough production to meet the goal. If market prices for that amount of production fell below the guaranteed level, the difference would be made up by supplementary payments to producers.

Forward prices would have two important advantages -- they are oriented toward prospective consumer requirements rather than an out-of-date consumption pattern; and, by sharply reducing price uncertainty, they enable farmers to plan efficient resource use in meeting these requirements. Their principal disadvantage is political. The remarkable wartime expansion of soybeans and peanuts demonstrates the feasibility of using forward prices in expanding production. For products requiring contraction, however, forward prices would have to be lowered. It is extremely doubtful if agriculture, acting through its Congressional representatives, would yet grant the administrative discretion necessary for making forward prices work properly. Nevertheless, it is in this direction that an agricultural price policy, consistent with the interests of both farmers and the general public, must lie.

In concluding, let me explicitly recognize that none of my positive proposals has any political "oomph." However, I do hope that they may help to clarify the issues as to what agriculture's legitimate claims are and how they may be met without seriously harming the general welfare. As an educator, with no special axe to grind, I cannot ask for more.

Dr. Francis Butler Simkins delivered the second lecture in the Spring series for the Social Science Round Table on April 18, 1949.

A South Carolinian by birth, Dr. Simkins received his undergraduate degree at the University of South Carolina and his Ph.D. at Columbia. He has taught at the University of North Carolina, Emory University, and at Longwood College (Virginia), at the last of which he was head of the Department of History at the time he left to become Professor of History at L.S.U. in 1948.

Dr. Simkins has contributed extensively to the field of Southern historical writing. In 1926 he published The Tillman Movement in South Carolina. In 1944 he contributed a biography, Pitchfork Ben Tillman, to the Southern Biographical Series. In 1947 came The South, Old and New, a Knopf publication, which has brought for him considerable prominence and inclusion in the best-seller lists. Dr. Simkins is co-author of two other books: South Carolina During Reconstruction (1932), written in collaboration with R. H. Woody of Duke University, and Women of the Confederacy (1936), in which he collaborated with J. W. Patton, now of the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Simkins' appearance before the Round Table was sponsored by the Department of History and Government. Dr. Simkins prepared a lengthy paper to be read at the meeting on the general subject of the "Southern Region." Because of the shortness of time and the accoustical deficiencies of the room where the Round Table meeting was held, Dr. Simkins dispensed with the formal reading of his paper and limited his discussion to that part of his paper which dealt with the enduring characteristics of the South as a region. He has kindly consented to furnish the full text of his prepared talk for publication in the Social Science Round Table papers.

## THE SOUTH

Francis B. Simkins  
Louisiana State University

The European influence is the principal factor in American Greatness. But this greatness could not be realized without a modification of this influence to meet the hardships and opportunities of a new land. Settlers in northern areas partly solved the problem by establishing themselves in American climate like those from which they came; for example, the English in Pennsylvania and the Germans in Wisconsin. The settlers of the South, on the other hand, were forced to face the problems of a subtropical climate. Because of this the sufferings of the early Southerners were great. The mortality rate among the Virginians was as high as 75 per cent. "The low and marshy ground, the hot sun, the unwholesome drinking water," says a Virginia historian <sup>(1)</sup>, "combined to produce an unending epidemic of dysentery and malaria," Henry Cabot Lodge, who loved not the South, asserts that husbands in Colonial South Carolina died earlier than their wives because the women "contented themselves with the brackish water of the coast" while the men "led a rather wild and dissipated life, and drank deeply" in a malarial climate. <sup>(2)</sup>

Adjustments were made to the Southern climate. Among these adjustments were the use of quinine and the building of houses on hills as protections against malaria. In the South people of the North European race lived and multiplied for three hundred years. "Not elsewhere in the world over," writes a geographer, <sup>(3)</sup> "have Englishmen dwelt continuously in large numbers under semitropical conditions for as much as three generations." Southerners did this while maintaining the English way of life to as great a degree as any group of Americans.

The Southerners' problem of modifying European habits to fit the New World was followed by another problem of like nature. It was to adopt benefits derived from the booming civilization of the northern half of the United States without abandoning progress in making adjustments to the demands of Southern climate and history. While winning its cultural and social independence from England, the region below the Potomac had to struggle against the tendency to become a colonial dependency of the North. Northern customs were in many respects more alluring than those of the mother country. England represented past glories; the region above the Potomac represented progress: a level of material wealth, comfort and democratic idealism greater than anywhere in Europe. The South, fulfilling its role as an integral part of a great nation, achieved much progress through imitating the North. It learned to use Northern machines, Northern literature, art and education, and Northern political reforms. This imitation at times was indiscriminate and unwise. But the pull forward of the Yankee spirit was no more successful in destroying the Southern qualities than was the pull backward of the mother country in preventing Southern qualities from

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(1) Thomas J. Wertenbaker, The Planters of Colonial Virginia (New York, 1937) pp. 30-40

(2) Henry C. Lodge, A Short History of the English Colonies in America (New York, 1909), P. 185

(3) E. N. Vallandigham, cited in Rupert B. Vance, Human Geography of the South (Chapel Hill, 1932), P. 352.



evolving. There is, said Donald Davidson in 1938, the reality of regionalism acknowledged in the vocabulary of the people if not in the solemn documentations of statesmen.

The American devotion to centralization, Davidson adds <sup>(4)</sup>, has not stirred the mountains from their bases, unchannelled the rivers, or removed the plains, the lakes the climate itself. The geographical diversity which these factors create divides America into a variety of sections of which the South is the most distinct. In the region below the Potomac, winter is neither long nor very cold; in summer for fifty afternoons the temperature climbs to ninety degrees in the shade; throughout the year there is greater humidity, more sunshine, less wind than elsewhere in the United States. At certain seasons there are torrential rains, and along the Gulf of Mexico the growing season lasts nine months.

These "imprints of sun, rain and wind" exert gross as well as subtle influences. <sup>(5)</sup> Long hot seasons favored the erection of the kingdoms of tobacco, rice, sugar and cotton, slowed the tempo of living and of speech, promoted outdoor life, modified architecture to make indoor living cooler, and encouraged the employment of Negroes on the land. The poorer soils, when eroded and leached by heavy rains, gave white and black alike excuse for poverty and leisure.

Geography coupled with the complications of social development makes possible the recognition of distinctive features in Southern civilization. The doctrine of white supremacy, asserts the historian Ulrich B. Phillips <sup>(6)</sup>, is "the central theme" of Southern history. In the presence of large masses of blacks, the white people developed a superior and unique attitude toward the other race. This attitude, according to Phillips, is the essence of Southernism. To white supremacy Avery O. Craven adds another explanation--the prevalence of the country-gentlemen ideal, a pattern of society borrowed from the English, justified by the physiocratic philosophy of the French, and taking root naturally in the agricultural South. The poet John Crowe Ransom regards Southernism as the creation, by the men of the Old South, of the ideal of a conservative civilization which "put the surplus energy in the free life of the mind" and which gave scope to the refinements of settled life in rural comfort. <sup>(7)</sup> By others, Southernism has been variously attributed to the fundamental piety of the people, their emphasis on home life, the peculiarities of their food, the survival of rural ways even in growing cities, a powerful nativism largely untouched within the past 175 years by immigration, the survival of the Southern type of lady and gentlemen, who are declared to be "the only types of 'complete souls' that the United States has yet produced." <sup>(8)</sup>

All observers admit that Southernism is a reality too elusive to be explained in objective terms.

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(4) The Attack on Leviathan (Chapel Hill, 1938), pp. 4,5.

(5) Vance, op. cit., 351.

(6) The Course of the South to Secession, (New York, 1939) p. 152.

(7) John C. Ransom, "The South Defends Its Heritage," Harpers Magazine, CLIX, pp. 108-18, (June, 1929).

(8) Count Hermann Keyserling, "The South--America's Hope" Atlantic Monthly, CXLIV, 607-08, (November, 1939)

It is something like a song or an emotion, more easily felt than recorded. "Poets have done better," remarks James G. Randall <sup>(9)</sup>, "in expressing the oneness of the South than historians in explaining it." One of the characters in George W. Cable's John Marsh, Southerner <sup>(10)</sup> speaks of "a certain ungeographical South--within-the-South--as portable and intangible as our souls in our bodies." It is a sentiment so deeply felt that it cannot be repelled. In exile in the iron New England dark, Quentin Compson is asked, "Why do you hate the South?" "I don't hate it," replied this character in William Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom! "I don't hate it," he repeats. I don't hate it, he thinks; I don't; I don't hate it! I don't hate it! <sup>(11)</sup>

A wealth of imaginative literature and factual scholarship have described the Old South as contrasted with the Old North. There was the difference between the lands of Cavalier and of Puritan, of slavery and freedom, of agriculture and of industry, of planter and of small farmer, of static contentment and of progressive aspirations. Contemporaries were so aware of the sectional divergencies that they spoke of two nations as distinct as the English and the French with a Congress at Washington, not to discuss common interests but to proclaim mutual grievances. <sup>(12)</sup>

Beginning in the 1820's Southern leaders recognized the reality of sectional divergencies by developing a social and political philosophy. Slavery, the region's most distinctive institution, once regarded as an embarrassing necessity, was interpreted as conferring positive good on all elements of Southern society including the slaves. It was justified by arguments drawn from the Bible, Aristotle and science. The relation between master and slave was explained as a bond made in heaven along with that of the human family. The pro-slavery argument was so cunningly merged with American ideals that servitude appeared to be the very condition of democracy. Since the Negro was made for manual labor, white skin protected the individual who was not a slave against social degradation. The ideal state was that of the slave master and his lady who found a mirror of their lives in the chivalric society of the Middle Ages.

The North through the tyranny of the majority was adjudged guilty of attempting to impose unbearable hardships upon the minority section. These hardships were the protective tariff, the building of means of transportation at Federal expense, the adoption of commercial strategies through which Southern wealth went into Northern pockets, and the weakening of slavery through the harboring of fugitives, the keeping of slaves out of the Western territories, and agitations for the ultimate abolition of the institution. To protect themselves against these aggressive acts, the Southerners evolved State's Rights. This doctrine at

(9) James G. Randall, The Civil War and Reconstruction (Boston, 1937) pp. 3-4.

(10) George W. Cable, John Marsh, Southerner, (New York, 1894) p. 327.

(11) Cited by Malcolm Gowley, "William Faulkner's Legend of the South" in Allen Tate, ed., A Southern Vanguard, (New York, 1947), pp. 16-17.

(12) Charleston Mercury, cited in Avery O. Craven, The Repressible Conflict (Baton Rouge, 1939) p. 28.



first took the form of threatened or actual nullification by the states of acts of the Federal government and the creation of a system of concurrent majorities through which the weaker section might veto the acts of the majority; when these devices failed, the Southerners asserted the right to withdraw from the Federal Union.

The distinctiveness of the Old South is perhaps best illustrated by the life of its ruling class. This aristocracy achieved its position through agricultural endeavor and not through commerce and industry as in the North. Its members lived in country seats well adapted to the environment. These houses were not more than fifteen rooms, but were made imposing by rows of white columns as tall as the houses themselves and by lavish surroundings. There were screens of spreading trees, borders of boxwood, and tangled masses of flowering and sweet-smelling shrubs. High ceilings, heavily shaded porches and drafty passage ways gave comfort in the long summers. The life of the dwellers within approximated the feudal splendors of the Old World. The planters were lords of all they surveyed, and they indulged in hunting, tournaments, military drills, dinners and other entertainments in the cavalier tradition. That their knightly pretensions were not unreal is proved by their participation in the Civil War. It was an adventure as chivalric as anything that engaged the attention of Arthur and his Knights or of Charlemagne and his Roland.

Another illustration of the distinctiveness of ante-bellum culture was in religion. Historic Protestantism was reduced to the consistencies of the Southern environment without sacrificing inherited fundamentals. Great religious revivals lifted the common people out of frontier indifference to religion. Violent conversions, vernacular preachings, camp-meetings, circuit-riders, and the discipline of church schools were designed to win and to hold Southerners of both races in the Christian communions. The Southern mind, which at the beginning of the nineteenth century had been under the influence of liberal deists, was captured for the orthodoxies by an aggressive group of theologians. Both church and state-controlled colleges were dedicated to the "old time religion." These changes prepared the way for a complete reconciliation between slavery and the Southern churches, for the breaking of ties with the anti-slavery churches of the North, and for the use among the Negroes of the bondage of the soul as a means of making more secure the bondage of the body. On Biblical grounds the Ethiopian was declared to be the descendant of Ham, fated to be the hewer of wood and the drawer of water. He was endowed with a wide range of sacred song proclaiming rich joys in heaven as compensation for the tribulations of this earth.

Historians in their efforts to explain the coming of the Civil War over-emphasize the differences between the Old North and the Old South. They forget that conflicts can be explained as easily in terms of likenesses as of differences. Perhaps the great American war between the sections was another example of Greek meeting Greek, of Anglo-Saxon quarrelling with Anglo-Saxon with the same ideals and ambitions. The fight began in Kansas where two groups of Americans used the controversy over slavery as an excuse for struggle to possess the lands. Both sides in the controversy, with Anglo-Saxon shrewdness, whipped out Bibles and guns to justify their greed.

The society of the Old South, like that of the Old North, was dynamic, imperialistic, and given to expansion both horizontal and perpendicular. Horizontal expansion for the Southerner meant frequent migration westward; even the slave was not a peasant in the sense of being tied to the soil. Perpendicular expansion meant that humble men could rise to the top. It was possible, says an historian of the Old South, for men to mount "from log cabin to plantation mansion on a stairway of cotton bales, accumulating slaves as they climbed," (13)

This was possible because of the opportunities of an expanding society and because of the relative absence of class lines and class consciousness. The sense of superiority of all white men over the Negroes created a sense of brotherhood not unlike the Greek concept of democracy. In so far as white men were concerned, the Jeffersonian ideal of the equality of man was never abandoned. Universal white manhood suffrage was established in all the Southern states, and in the persons of John Randolph, William L. Yancey, and Albert G. Brown the Dixie demagogue was almost as important as he was destined to be in the days of Ben Tillman and Theodore G. Bilbo. Education for all white children was progressively applied, and to the Prussian purpose of using the school to promote skills and social discipline was, without reluctance, added the American notion of the school as an instrument for ironing out social distinction. (14)

Perhaps Abraham Lincoln was correct in assuming that no impassable barrier could be erected between the sections. The Old South did not have within itself the will or the resources for national self-expression. It had no political, economic or cultural capital. It was dependent upon the North for manufactured articles, cloth made from its cotton, styles for its women's clothes, the books and magazines it read, and the textbooks and many of the teachers of its schools. The Southern Literary Messenger said in 1854 that Harper's Magazine had five times more subscribers south of the Potomac than did the Southern Literary Messenger. (15)

Bitterly did such Southern writers as James D. B. De Bow and Thomas P. Kettel complain of the high prices the North was able to charge for its goods, but the commercial and cultural conventions of the 1850's for the purpose of creating regional autonomy had scant success. Lincoln believed that the better natures of the Southern states were against their bid for nationality. The fact that a national soul did not survive the military defeat of 1865 makes one wonder if it ever had a full existence.

The Old South of the differences and contrasts enumerated was defeated at Appomattox. In its place was created a New South in which human freedom was achieved and in which industrialization and sectional reconciliation became aspirations. The South's central problem since 1865, whether political, industrial, or social, was to adjust its standards to those of the victorious North. Many of these adjustments have been happy experiences out of which Southern leaders and people have gained much. As results of war and reconstruction the South recognized the supremacy of the Union, free Negro labor, and the equality of all men

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(13) Charles S. Sydnor, Development of Southern Sectionalism, 1819-1848 (Baton Rouge, 1948), p. 14

(14) Clement C. Eaton, Freedom of Thought in the Old South, (Durham, 1942) p. 76

(15) Avery O. Craven, The Coming of the Civil War (New York, 1942), p. 296.

before the law. Later the national ideals of business success and industrial advance won victories over the agrarian tradition; and the New South demonstrated in practice the New England inspired concept of universal education. Imported liberal views of religion and science were accepted by college-bred leaders; imported class alignments and recreations activities altered social life; in deference to the critical standards of metropolitan areas, the South created a literature that affronted its romantic pride; despite a painful sensitivity, it allowed the Negro to progress along lines consistent with Northern concepts of uplift; and with unrestrained patriotism, Southerners participated in the battles of three national wars and in the councils of three national administrations. Because of these concessions to Northern standards, there was indeed some basis for the conclusion that by the 1930's the states of the former Confederacy had so far receded from the sectionalism of 1861 that they were about to become a mere segment of a unified republic.

To justify this progression out of an unhappy past there arose two groups of publicists. The first were the champions of the New South Movement and the second were the Southern Liberals. Without repudiating the heritage of the past, the first group demanded progress along lines of industrial development and liberal thinking. In the name of a liberal tradition said to be as inherently Southern as Thomas Jefferson, the second group assaulted religious orthodoxy, puritanism, demagoguery, rural conservatism, and other aspects of the contemporary scene. They were modern enough to advocate state action in social and economic fields quite beyond the Jeffersonian conception of an agrarian society. They advocated libraries, good roads, hospitals, school expansion, social legislation and other such material comforts as the common people in all progressive societies demand of their rulers.

The capital blunder of the leaders of the Old South was the emphasis they put upon slavery as an explanation of the sectional variations. This accent upon a despised institution brought upon the region the charge of blood guilt and led its powerful enemies to compel the tragic exorcism of 1865. The leaders of the New South Movement, once the conqueror relented sufficiently to allow white supremacy, did not pursue a policy which brought upon them a second civil war. They did not try to restore the old order. If we are to believe William Faulkner, the South has long been doing penance for its great offence against human freedom. The truly forgotten men of Southern history are Thomas R. Dew and the other writers who proclaimed the innate inequality of man as the prime justification of slavery. The Jeffersonian dream of the equality of all men became a Southern axiom. About this declaration was as much unreality, or even hypocrisy, as there had been in statemen of the American Revolution such as Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and Willie Jones talking like Jacobins while each of them held a numerous band of blacks in durance vile. Leaders of the New South Movement such as Henry W. Grady, Hoke Smith, and Charles B. Aycock pressed for the disfranchisement of the blacks and at the same time preached "glittering generalities" about progress and democracy. They were not as forthright as their pro-slavery predecessors. Nevertheless they were not sweepingly reactionary toward the Negro. They allowed him schools, complete religious freedom, and freedom to own

property and to move away. This was because, as Gunnar Myrdal sapiently observes <sup>(16)</sup> the Southern white man has learned to adhere so deeply to the American Creed of democracy that his conscience does not permit radical reaction against the Negro or the denial to him of hope of more equalities in the future.

So much emphasis has been placed upon the willingness and the ability of the South to move out of its past that there has been created a legend of greatest practical importance. It is the belief that the New South was and is in a constant state of change which will ultimately result in the annihilation of the regional differences in order that the section with the tragic past can embrace, without superstitious inhibitions, all the benefits of the national life. "Everywhere the South," said wistfully two of the most competent chroniclers of the national annals in 1933 <sup>(17)</sup>, "gave way before the onrush of the North . . . . It would not be stretching the point too much to say that before the nineteenth century closed the South had become merely an appendage of New York and the Ohio Valley." This great change has been proclaimed by Northern capitalists who have implemented their words by bulldozing much of the Southern landscape out of its natural shape to make clearings for new industries. It has been accepted so thoroughly by the spokesmen of the South that a Harvard scholar <sup>(18)</sup> is able to use their utterances as the basis of a book detailing progress toward sectional amity.

The legend of the changing South has from time to time been the basis for optimistic thinkers to assume the actual or imminent solution of the principal problems which make the section distinct. It made it possible for Frederick Douglass to assume as early as 1879 that conditions in the Southern states were so steadily improving "that the colored man there will ultimately realize the fullest measure of liberty and equality accorded and secured in any section of our common country." <sup>(19)</sup> It allowed an eminent student of Southern history <sup>(20)</sup> to assert in 1914 that the time had come for the section to "emancipate itself from the deadly one-party system" because the question of Negro suffrage had been settled by disfranchising amendments to state constitutions. The legend reached its ultimate extreme in a book written in 1926 entitled The Advancing South and containing a chapter called "The Ebbing Tide of Color". <sup>(21)</sup> It survives in 1948 in the assertion of an Arkansas editor that the increased voting of Negroes in the Democratic primaries makes the race "a potent, positive factor in the region" and makes "the passing of the one-party system inevitable." "A great mass of ill-equipped voters," concludes the editor, "are thrusting against the hard shell of the Southern political system, and it is cracking in many places." <sup>(22)</sup>

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(16) An American Dilemma (New York, 1944), I, 461-66.

(17) Louis H. Hacker and Benjamin B. Kendrick, The United States Since 1865 (New York, 1932), p. 64.

(18) Paul H. Buck, The Road to Reunion, 1865-1900, (Boston, 1938).

(19) Cited in Journal of Negro History, IV, 56-57 (January, 1919).

(20) James W. Garner in Studies in Southern History and Politics, (New York, 1914), pp. 367-87.

(21) Edwin Hims, The Advancing South (New York, 1926).

(22) Harry S. Ashmore in The Southern Packet, IV, 1 (November, 1948)



These sanguine hopes have not been fulfilled. The South has not given the Negro the liberty and equality accorded him elsewhere; the one-party system and the Negro question have not been eliminated from Southern politics; the color line has not ebbed. Southern culture, as Donald Davidson said in 1938,<sup>(23)</sup> "has an enormous vitality, even in those attitudes which sociologists call survivals; Its ways of humor, its 'stubborn bantering threats to outsiders,' and various 'defense mechanisms.'" Numerous cultural factors, together with "a certain revivification of sectional antagonisms," declared the South's leading sociologist in 1936,<sup>(24)</sup> "has contributed to an apparent solidifying of the regional culture." There have been changes, but, as Stark Young wisely observed in 1930, the changing South is still the South.

The illusory character of the assumption that the South is changing into something that it was not is suggested by an analysis of the bases of this contention. Its advocates were caught in the same false optimism which in the late nineteenth century charmed the spokesmen of the whole of European civilization. It was the dogma of progress: that man by the application of science and education could escape the tragedies of the past; that Western Europe was learning to live in peace and harmony; that the South was learning to reach the American ideal of provincial self-effacement and interracial democracy. Events since 1914 prove that these optimists were not interpreting realistically the signs of the times: The Western nations were not evolving into the republic of brotherly love; the South was not growing into one of the provinces of a democratic paradise.

Moreover, from motives not so naive, the keepers of the South's reputation saw material advantages in encouraging the belief that the section's standards of behavior were moving toward the national norm. Thereby they avoided the risk of a tragic reckoning like the one imposed on Southerners who talked oppositely. Thereby they created a climate of opinion which facilitated the ingress of Northern capital. This was successful diplomacy which paid in imported industries which gave salaries to Southern leaders and substantial wages to Southern workingmen. When outside investigators discovered awkward facts to sustain the belief that theirs was but a Potemkin front, the defenders of the South, instead of trying to justify the harsh realities, minimized their importance and confidently predicted their extinction. When forthright demagogues aroused resentment against this truckling to Northern prejudices, the embarrassment of the sectional conciliators was only temporary. The influence of the demagogues waned before the normal conviction of Southerners that it was neither good business nor good manners to parade the sectional faults.

It is well to warn against taking too seriously the pronouncements of Southern reformers. Frequently they are rare specimens protected by aristocratic family connections or by the isolation of academic or editorial sanctums from the mass sentiments around them. Gunnar Myrdal scornfully notes<sup>(25)</sup> that the

(23) The Attack on Leviathan, 302

(24) Howard W. Odum, Southern Regions of the United States (Chapel Hill, 1936) p. 531

(25) Op. cit., I, 470

Southern liberal is afraid of "the deadly blow of being called a 'nigger lover'" and therefore likes to keep the Negro out of sight in agitations designed for the benefit of the race. Liberal pronouncements on the national or sectional level of group organizations are not likely to be implemented on local levels. Myrdal contrasts the bold words and actions of the central office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with the timidity of this association's chapters in Southern towns. (26) He also notes that white ministers are not likely to burden their congregations with the liberal exhortations (27) on the race question which they are supposed to bring back from the general assemblies of their churches. When such exhortations are brought home they are not likely to be heard. In 1837 an English clergyman living in Georgia complained to Harriet Martineau of the failure of his well disposed congregation to react in any manner to his sermons. This complaint may be repeated 112 years later. Observant persons now are aware of the indifference of millions of readers to the liberal editorials of their favorite newspapers. They realize the indifference of the thousands who each Sabbath attend the Bible classes to the liberal or even radical study materials which national church organizations put into their hands. As Richard M. Weaver observes, (28) "In the sphere of religion the Southerner has always been hostile to the spirit of inquiry. He felt that religion which is intellectual is no religion. His was a natural piety, expressing itself in uncritical belief and in the experience of conversion."

The speaker who claims that the history of North-South relations since 1865 has been a record of steady decline in the intersectional asperities is one of three persons: an orator who sentimentally blinds himself to the facts; a diplomat who suppresses the facts for a purpose; an historian who ignores half the facts in order to fit the other half into a preconceived conception of progress. The full facts of Southern history since the Civil War reveal a series of ups and downs in an everlasting battle between the forces making for sectional reconciliation and those making for section estrangement.

The "let-us-have-peace" sentiments of the surrender at Appomattox were followed by the bitterness of Reconstruction. Indeed the bitterness created by this attempt to give the Negroes some of the aspects of the American dream of equality was more intense and more lasting than that created by the carnage of civil war. The goodwill created by the surrender of the North on the Negro question in 1877 and by the election of a Democratic President in 1884 was matched by the ill will created by the Lodge Force Bill of 1890 and by the disfranchising amendments to the Southern state constitutions. The intersectional and interracial friendship which Booker T. Washington created was dimmed by Theodore Roosevelt's and a whole generation of muckraker's affronts to the Southern standards of caste.

The sense of national pride engendered in Southern hearts by the election of Woodrow Wilson and the victories of the First World War were followed by an attack on the South which is characterized as "more

(26) An American Dilemma, II, 823-24

(27) Ibid., II, 869.

(28) "The Older Religiousness of the South," Sewanee Review, LI 249 (Spring, 1943)



abusive and unrelenting than anything the Southern states have experienced since the last Federal soldier was withdrawn from their soil." (29) There were the Ku-Klux exposures, the ridicule of Southern political and religious attitudes, and the uncovering of alleged abuses of justice. The good will engendered between Franklin D. Roosevelt and the South was followed by legislation which affronted the conservative traditions of the region. The willingness of the South to bear its share of the armed crusade to impose the American ideal of equality upon Japan and Germany was followed by the demand that the South apply this ideal to the Negro. Thereby was created an atmosphere of alarm and suspicion over Northern intentions.

In 1920 a group of twelve writers known as the Southern Agrarians published a manifesto justifying the determination of the South to retain its identity in keeping with its conservative traditions. Granting that the past was not recoverable in its old form, the twelve disavowed the progressive outlook as unfit for Southern needs and as a betrayal of a worthy and congenial heritage. The true South they characterized as rural, conservative, stable, and religious. Inherited prejudices against Northerners and against Negro equality were warmly advocated and the modern school and religion turned into sociology were denounced. They believed that the South should revive its agrarian tradition and repudiate the industrial invasion as unsound economically and as deceptive in its humanitarian motivation. As they learned from Sinclair Lewis and others of the standardization which machinery forced upon regions adopting it, they were thankful that this development had been retarded in the South. They shared the disillusion of thoughtful people throughout the world following the First World War, and saw no reason why the South should favor a spirit of liberalism and progress which had failed to solve the problems of other regions.

The Southern Agrarians believe that a conservative South was nearer the reality than the progressive South praised by the liberals. They understand that national standardization has not annihilated the fundamental difference of their beloved section. They know that even though the modern Southerner joins the Westerner and Northerner in adopting a common type of automobile, house and clothes, he has not necessarily surrendered his distinctions of thought and emotions; that reading the same book and attending the same school does not necessarily eliminate provincial thinking. They understand that the conversions of many educated Southerners to the logic of liberalism does not mean that they are willing to put aside inherited habits and live according to the new logic. They know, for example, that few of the many who talk against race prejudice are willing to suffer the inconvenience of violating customary racial barriers; that few who believe that the cause of liberalism can be promoted by having two political parties are willing to incur the displeasure of their conservative neighbors by joining a political party other than the Democratic.

Examination of many of the phases of the institutional life of the New South reveals a constantly recurring condition; despite the changes which the catastrophe of 1865 made inevitable, the distinctive culture of the section was never destroyed. In politics--to cite the most obvious example--the South responded to the suggestion that the Negro be given the equalities mentioned in the Declaration of Independence

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(29) Ronald Davidson, *op. cit.*, 315.

by reducing the race to political impotence. This, with the acquiescence of the United State Supreme Court, was accomplished by the revision of state constitutions in the 1890's and 1900's. The opening since 1937 of the Democratic primaries to Negroes by the Federal courts effected a change more technical than actual. While there has been considerable increase in colored voters, the new voters merely won the privilege of ratifying procedures already determined by white majorities. An unchallenged caste system prevented the Negro from becoming a candidate for office or from advocating policies contrary to the will of the whites. The sum total of his political gains to date is one member of the Kentucky legislature and one member of the Richmond city council.

A lasting break in the political unity of the white race would give vital significance to the votes of the Negroes. Thereby would it be possible for the minority race to hold the balance of power between white factions. Such a break consequently is the fond hope of the friends of Negro advance. It has not come. It was threatened in 1928 when five states of the so-called Solid South voted against a Democratic candidate for President who violated some of the cherished principles of the section. When two and four years later the name of this candidate was removed from the ballot, the Southern states voted unanimously for Democratic candidates and repudiated the leaders of the 1928 bolt. Again in 1948 was there a threat to political unity when the Southern people unanimously disapproved the desire of the Democratic presidential candidate to extend certain civil rights to the Negroes. The Southern people left to the leaders of the state machines the determination of the method to meet this emergency. In a majority of states these leaders decreed that Southern interests could best be served by supporting the nominee of the traditional party; the voters fell in line. In four states the leaders of the state machines felt that Southern interests could best be served by supporting an independent candidate; the voters fell in line. In no state was white solidarity broken sufficiently to make the Negro vote important.

Although concessions were made to the liberal spirit in regard to the Negro, the South remained adamant in the matter of greatest importance. The bonds of caste, by which the Negro was kept subordinate and underprivileged, were weakened in few respects. In the middle of the twentieth century it was still possible for the demagogue to win political preferment by campaigning against Negro rights; for whites to take jobs away from blacks when members of the superior caste were able and willing to perform the same tasks; for business opportunities to be monopolies of the whites; and for Negroes for all practical purposes to be excluded from the professions of politics, law and engineering. The average white still has three tones to his voice: a normal tone for whites, a "mammy voice" for Negroes with whom he is friendly, and a haughty tone for strange Negroes. The progress of the blacks in health and education was caused by the intervention of benevolent whites, not through the efforts of the blacks themselves. The only equality the black possesses is the right to migrate, to move from job to job, from country to town, from South to North.

In the years since the Civil War there was a steady decline in what the antebellum traveler Frederick Law Olmsted called "the close cohabitation and association of black and white." Immediately after the war

the two races separated in churches, and for the cultural give and take of the plantations was substituted a dual school system which sealed the children of one race from the other. Gradually it became impossible for a white person to teach in a Negro school without losing caste. No longer did the two races have what William Faulkner calls "the same parties: the identical music from identical instruments, crude fiddles and guitars, now in the big house with candles and silk dresses and champagne, now in the dirt-floored cabins with smoking pine knots and calico and water sweetened with molasses."<sup>(30)</sup> The whites have been able to implement their growing aversion for intimate contact with the blacks through the use of labor-saving devices and through the spread of progressive notions concerning the dignity of labor. Despite Supreme Court Decisions, immutable social custom makes for increased residential segregation, especially in the newer sections of the cities. In many places the blacks live so far away from white settlements that the whites find the hiring of them as servants impractical. In fewer numbers are the blacks sitting in the balconies of white theaters or patronizing white physicians and dentists. It is now almost possible for a middle class person to live many years in a Southern city without contacts with blacks.

One of the most persistent legends of the South is that the Negro is in a constant state of revolt against the social patterns of the section. Despite a vast literature to the contrary, the facts of history refute this assumption. As a slave the black man did not attempt general insurrection and did not run away often. "The slaves," says a historian of the Confederacy,<sup>(31)</sup> "supported the war unanimously (albeit somewhat involuntarily)." It is now proved that outside compulsions rather than inner ambitions prompted the political insubordinations of Reconstruction. Their artificial character is proved by the fact they were not accompanied by insubordinations in social relations and by the fact that they disappeared as soon as the outside compulsions were removed. Indicative of the willingness of the rank and file of the blacks to accept the status quo are the words of a conservative demagogue who knew the Negro well. If the election of governor of South Carolina, declared Cole L. Blenese in 1913,<sup>(32)</sup> were left "entirely to the Negro vote, I would receive without trouble 75 to 90 per cent." In communities in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee where the blacks have made wide use of the suffrage there has been no assault on white supremacy. This fact is one of the main arguments advanced by Southern liberals in favor of giving them the suffrage. Of late, the prospective Negro voters have abandoned the comparatively independent Republican party in order to join a party completely dominated by their white neighbors. They vote, not for Henry Wallace and others who practice race equality, but for those who at best render only lip service to this principle.

That the Negroes are not in revolt against the white pattern of civilization is best illustrated by their conduct in a field of action in which they possess perfect freedom. This is religion. They voluntarily are the whites in this field. They join the whites in maintaining the orthodoxies and in creating

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(30) Absalom, Absalom! (New York, 1936) p. 98

(31) Robert S. Cotterhill, The Old South (Glendale, 1936) p. 317.

a black counterpart to almost every one of the white denominations. If the masses of the whites are Baptists or premillennialists, so are the masses of the blacks; if the upper-class whites are Episcopalians or Presbyterians, so are the upper-class blacks. If denominations like Catholicism, Unitarianism and Congregationalism make little headway among the whites, the same is true of the blacks. If skepticism and atheism make little appeal to Southern whites, the same is true of the Southern blacks. Among them there is no relapse into paganism, African or otherwise. The lessons taught from the Bible by the slavemasters are still the Negro faith.

The untrammelled religious freedom of the country likewise gives the dominant whites convincing opportunity to reveal their distinct Southernism. In 1949, as in 1859, the South is the area of Christendom most steadfast in the historic faith. While rituals and imagery are modified to suit modern customs, doctrinal affirmations remain the same as those of seventeenth century ancestors. There are no open unbelievers among the middle and upper classes; the unchurched among the lower classes become believers when they move to town or go to school. Religion is the one subject of discussion in public gatherings of a non-utilitarian character; secular forums are almost unknown. There is an unofficial union of church and state; politicians must be professed Christians; political gatherings are opened with prayer, and public schools are unconsciously permeated with religious teachings despite constitutional prohibitions. The lack of religious fervor of the upper classes finds compensation in the rising of the multitudes to the level of historic Methodist and Baptist faiths and of the new premillennial confessions. In the South there is no confusion of tongues; sectarian differences are based on race, class, or ecclesiastical politics; there is a magnificent unity of doctrine.

Southerners cherish to the highest degree the great educational superstition: that the school is the panacea for all the ills of society. If the unsuspecting stranger studies the plans of the section's schools, he may imagine that their purpose is not only to make Southern youths into Northerners but even to make them into communists of the variety Plato describes in The Republic. Textbooks written in the North give an anti-Southern bias to instruction in history, literature and speech, and the school seemingly is attempting to usurp many of the functions of child nurture traditionally belonging to the home.

But among Southerners there is the education that does not educate. This result in part is caused by the temperament of a people inclined to be lazy and unintellectual and even philistine. It is also caused by the survival of overwhelming traditions. Northern bias in textbooks is offset by less formal and perhaps more effective indoctrination in local ideals which survive the regimentation of the schools. The many Northern professors who teach in Southern colleges feel obligated not always reluctantly, to acquire the regional bias. The home, not the school, determines the cultural outlook of Southerners. It is remarkable how seldom the problems raised in the classroom are discussed in the marketplace or around the dinner table; how perfect is the freedom of speech enjoyed by the teacher because few bother to repeat what the teacher has told; and how unused is the public to listen to the collective opinion of teachers



or students; and how even lessons in a subject so "scientific" as cooking have difficulty in changing the home diets. How little the college or university affects its surroundings is revealed by the fact that the voluntary reading habits of this community are exactly the same as those of the non-academic community. Proof of this comes from the comparison of the magazines sold in corner drug stores. The professor of social relations does not try to project his theory of social determinism and of race equality into his everyday contacts.

The South accepts Northern dictation in literary matters more completely than in other fields. A book, even one about the South and by a Southerner, wins little attention from Southerners unless published in New York. In order to win the approval of New York, the Southern author often feels obligated to use a critical realism or romantic irony which involves a repudiation of the Southern past. Many among educated Southerners commit a major crime against intelligence; instead of letting their opinions of state or section grow out of their own observations, they accept the opinions of New York journalists as paraphrased for them by their local newspapers. Southern newspapers are not inclined to look or to think for themselves.

There is danger, however, of overemphasizing literary materials in measuring the outlook of a people, especially of a people as non-literary as those of the South. The great mass of Southern readers ignores the realistic writings, nourishing itself on the self-flattery of the romances of the past. Many among the minority who read the new realism do not connect it with life, regarding it as a vacuous escape into a sentimental world which they do not actually wish to enter. Moreover, the new school of Southern writers belongs to the South to a greater degree than earlier critics realized. This has expression in the sensational success of Margaret Mitchell's Gone with the Wind, an obvious glorification of the Southern tradition. It is now realized that behind the stinking vulgarity of Erskine Caldwell lies a lusty and even humorous appreciation of the poor white; that behind the seemingly unreasoning violence of William Faulkner lies a legend of the South as patriotic as it is pessimistic; that James Branch Cabell despite his self-protective irreverence is able to move among medieval legends with a sense of continuity with aristocratic Virginia; and that Ellen Glasgow despite her bleak landscapes and progressive hopes has compassion for her unprogressive Virginians. Disseminated through the social comments of Southern men of letters is a modesty which makes possible a freedom from that note of political rectitude and absolutist contempt for the individual which is interent in those for whom things and individuals are just so much energy to be harnessed for virtuous purposes.

Forces work against the apparent progress from rural stagnation to urbanization. People who move from country to city and from farm to factory do not surrender their rural ideals. In the South the country conquers the city as effectively as elsewhere the city conquers the country. The larger Southern cities grow, the less do they become cities in a cultural sense; unlike the cities of Europe and the North, they do not develop such urban arts as the theater, the drama and music; nor do they have good cooking in public places. This is because a larger and larger proportion of their inhabitants possesses rural back-

(33)

Herbert M. McLuhan in Allen Tate, ed., A Southern Vanguard (New York, 1948), 105.

grounds and is naturally most interested in country pleasures. The wealthy of the new Southern cities spend their surpluses on farms, country estates, horses, hogs, hunting, and city houses in country style.

The march toward America's ideal of democracy is stayed that the splendid legend of the Old South may be preserved. "Perpetually suspended in the great haze of memory, it hung, as it were, poised, somewhere between earth and sky, colossal, shining, and incomparably lovely."<sup>(34)</sup> The attitude of the old agrarian aristocracy continued to be a living part of the Southern tradition, not only for the thirty-five years after 1865 but also for the twentieth century. Everyone who claimed to be a planter was metamorphosed into a Marse Chan or a Squire Effingham. "The Southerner feels," writes William Van Conner in 1948,<sup>(35)</sup> "that the antebellum world . . . possessed values and away-of-life in which the needs of the whole human being could be more readily satisfied than they could be in our industrialized society."

Ancestor-hunting became an important activity. "Even today from Virginia to Texas," said William A. Percy in 1941,<sup>(36)</sup> "ten thousand crepuscular old maids and widows in ghostly coveys and clusters are solving such insoluble problems." Many persons tie themselves to baronial planters and some--if we accept the words of Stark Young and James Branch Cabell--trace descent from the Lost Tribes of Israel. Such an attitude tends to create an atrophying pessimism, an incomplete and frustrated region, as William Faulkner puts it, a region vainly trying to recover its own identity, vainly trying to relieve its legendary past. This attitude also possesses dynamic and constructive social functions. A consciousness of illustrious forebears gives satisfactions like those of religion to old people without material assets. It gives justification to the ambitions or attainments of self-made men, freeing them of inferiority complexes and getting them into the best society. It gives rise to the cult of antique furniture, the reproduction of which is the most appreciated thing of beauty the twentieth century South produces.

The changing South of the legend works both ways. Changes in the direction of national uniformity are accompanied by changes in the opposite direction. Importance among these is the disappearance of the fear of the hot climate inherited from North European ancestors. This is because of the invention of artificial ice, refrigeration and air-conditioning, and because of the elimination of such climatic evils as yellow fever, malaria, and hook worm. The Victorian habiliments of the ancestors have been discarded in favor of looser and lighter garments. The Victorian reticence of the maiden has been replaced by a nakedness almost as complete and almost as lacking in self-consciousness as that of a pagan goddess. The South has learned to worship its hot sun as a beneficent god; this is a substitute for a previous fear of the sun as a cruel

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(34) Wilbur J. Cash, The Mind of the South (New York, 1942) p. 124.

(35) In Allen Tate, ed., op. cit., 94.

(36) Lanterns on the Levee (New York, 1941) p. 38.



tyrant. Its curative properties, in the opinion of Rupert B. Vance, <sup>(37)</sup> is protection for rural Southerners against lack of sanitary precautions. No longer do Southerners cherish the superstition that white men cannot work under its direct rays. Sun baths are indulged in for two reasons: because of health and because of an esthetic revolution which holds that a brown skin is more beautiful than a fair one. The acme of Southern comeliness is blue eyes, white teeth, blond hair and bronze skins.

Many of the regional characteristics herewith listed are survivals out of a dark past and are persistently condemned by outsiders. If they are defended by Southerners, it is with fundamental qualifications. The New South has no intention of declaring "a positive good" those aspects of its behavior which affront the conscience of the national majority. The contemporary South, however, finds it not only possible but strategically wise to defend as "positively good" certain of its peculiar tendencies and ambitions. These are tendencies and ambitions which, unlike the pro-slavery argument of the Old South, do not run counter to the liberal sentiments of the outside world. The South, long accused of tyranny against others, can, with a show of reason, accuse others of tyranny against it.

"Positively good" is the demand that the section be allowed to adjust its manner of artistic expression to its climate and to the temperament of its people. Because of the tyranny of books and magazines imported from strange climates, Southerners are led to construct artificial lakes, treeless lawns, and low-roofed houses without porches or blinds. These lakes are often mesquite-infested and slimy or muddy, the lawns often bare and unkempt, and the houses often uncomfortably hot for six months in the year. Southern suburbs possess the chaotic appearance of a parade of circus cages. The newer public monuments sometimes stress the nude, the sensational and the realistic. Comfort demands a return to the tangled gardens, to the shade-giving trees, to the high-roofed halls and porches of the ante-bellum homes, and to monuments in which the Christian reticence and the classical ideals of the region are respected. Southerners have as much right to their peculiar tastes as have other peoples.

One of the prices of progressive industrialization of the South is increasing servitude to Northern capital. New York has grown into the most autocratic city state of modern times, with the Southern province of the United States as its most important colony. The great financial houses of that and kindred cities control most of the region's strategic industries, having sent out a second and a third generation of carpetbaggers to found factories or to purchase those already existing. The South's coal fields and iron reserves are held by the nation's financial titans--the Morgans, the Mellons, and Fords, and the Rockefellers. All sixteen corporations controlling the section's oil wells are non-local in ownership, with the Morgans, Mellons, Fords and Rockefellers again in the top places. "All the major railroad systems," said the President's Report on the Economic Condition of the South in 1938, "are owned and controlled elsewhere. . . . Most of the great electric holding companies that furnish the light, heat and power for

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(37) Human Geography of the South, 361.

Southern homes and industries, are directed, managed and owned by outsiders. Likewise, the transportation and distribution of natural gas, one of the South's greatest assets is almost completely in the hands of remote financial institutions." The existence of Northern patent monopolies and the absence of machine manufacturing permits outside direction even in industries locally owned. Manufacturing is mainly confined to the elementary processes; the South fabricates its own cast-iron pipes, steel rails, bridges and oils, but not its hardware, locomotives and automobiles. The South does not produce radios, clocks, surgical instruments, dynamos, clothes, drugs, and many other finished products requiring the highest skill to produce and bringing in the highest profits.

Retail profits are siphoned out of the section in ever-growing proportions by Northern-owned chain stores. Only a few of the "specialty" articles made excessively profitable through national advertising are controlled by Southerners. The Southern business man is a mere factor or agent for Northern principals, who control both production and distribution. His function is to sell the gasoline, automobiles, mechanical refrigerators, alcoholic beverages, clothing, insurance policies, foodstuffs, and a hundred other articles endeared to the Southern public through advertising. Some of these articles are as worthless as the wooden nutmegs the Yankee peddler is said to have imposed upon the public in ante-bellum days. The burden of these purchases on a relatively poor people is devastating. In 1937 an economist <sup>(38)</sup> estimated that the South was paying out a billion dollars annually in excess of its income. It balanced its credit by selling property to investors from other sections of the country, by borrowing, by going bankrupt, and by destroying lands and forests to secure immediate incomes.

Apparently there is no effective remedy for this situation. The Federal government, through its policies of protective tariffs, constitutional immunities to corporation, railroad rate discriminations, and patent monopolies, customarily favors the old manufacturing centers of the country. The possibility of the South revolting against its debtor status, in the manner of the Revolutionary planters against their British creditors, is ruled out by the outcome of the Civil War. Legislative remedies are also eliminated through the decisions of the Supreme Court against confiscatory acts by states. That Southern leaders are able to reconcile the sons and grandsons of those who followed Robert E. Lee and William Jennings Bryan to the economic domination of the North caused an eminent historian to cry out bitterly in 1942. "We are confronted," said Benjamin B. Kendrick, <sup>(39)</sup> "with a paradox more amazing and ironical than any ever conjured by the imagination of Gilbert and Sullivan. The people of the South, who all their lives have suffered deprivations, want and humiliation from outside financial imperialism, followed with hardly a murmur of protest leaders who, if indirectly, were nonetheless agents and attorneys of the imperialists."

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(38) Daniel C. Coyle in *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, XIII, 192 (Spring, 1937)

(39) *Journal of Southern History*, VII, 49 (February, 1942).

However, there were protests which excited the moral sympathies of those liberals the world over who condemn colonial exploitation. William Faulkner croats in his hideous character Popeye a compendium of the rape and corruption which alien finance capital visits upon this novelist's section. Academicians like Walter P. Webb of Texas and Howard W. Odum of North Carolina furnished the facts concerning the South's plight and President Franklin D. Roosevelt's National Emergency Council and Governor Ellis G. Arnall of Georgia have broadcast these facts.

Some economists regard the Roosevelt policy of heavy expenditures by the Federal government a means of lessening the annual excess of expenditures over receipts which an uncontrolled system of capitalistic enterprise imposes upon the South. It is believed that the levying of high Federal income taxes according to ability to pay, and the expenditure of these revenues according to the degree of human need, mean a shift of resources from the wealthier North to the poorer South. The expenditures of the period of the Second World War and its aftermath create an unparalleled prosperity which has resulted in a greater proportional increase in Southern incomes and has allowed Southerners to retire a considerable portion of their debts. Southern ports like Hampton Roads and New Orleans impinge upon the commercial monopoly of New York City. The partial victory of Arnall and other Southern governors against freight rate discriminations may presage a reversal of a long-established Federal policy of favoritism to patrons of Northern carriers. The Tennessee Valley development is a magnificent gesture by the Federal government toward redressing the grievances of the South against the rapacity of Wendell Willkie and other financiers who captured the section's electric power. The success of this experiment may lead to its duplication in other areas as a means of redressing the balance against the Southern and other regional economies.

Under the direction of Southern entrepreneurs one great Southern industry has annexed the whole United States as a province. This is tobacco under the direction of the Dukes and the Reynolds. Other comparable successes are coca-cola and patent medicines. The South's most mature industry, cotton textiles, has learned to make fabrics of the finest quality, and under such trade names as Cannon, Dan River and Avondale is capturing some of the most profitable markets of the country. This may be followed by triumphs in other fields; for Southern labor is growing more skilled and Southern business more cunning. The workman is astir with the obvious intention of exacting the highest possible wages out of employers, be they local or Northern. The Southern farmer is giving up his traditional conservatism to form trade agreements and crop reduction compacts to exact the highest prices from Northern consumers.

Perhaps the greatest threat to the integrity of the regional life is that the South will succumb to bribes offered by the wealthier section of the United States. There is precedent for such behavior. Robert E. Lee's refusal to accept a sinecure from a Northern business concern did not prevent other ex-Confederate generals from doing so. The Reconstruction period was scarcely over before many were on the payroll of the former enemy country as members of Congress. In the 1880's the ex-Confederate generals and other leaders of Southern opinion took action which had the earmarks of scalawagism. Northern business men invaded every Southern state offering the gospel of prosperity. They invited the local leaders to what one

historian picturesquely calls the Great Barbecue. These leaders, with few exceptions, accepted places at the table in order to participate in the profits of the new business. They became the agents or hired attorneys of the invading capitalists. The Great Barbecue continues to the present, with the table growing longer and longer to make room for a greater variety of Southern leaders. The hospitality grows so generous that a recent Georgia writer believes that both sides in the struggle for the control of state affairs receive financial support from the capitalists. (40)

Southern social scientists and educators receive subsidies from the great capitalistic philanthropies of the North for the purpose of carrying on researches which, at least by implication, discredit the traditional race and social distinctions of the South. Inherited concepts of states' rights are set aside in order that Southern politicians, business men, farmers and commoners may share in the ever-increasing Federal bounties. Donald Davidson (41) thinks that under the reforming zeal of Federal social planners the Tennessee Valley may become a region of forests, pastures, and lakes in which the once busy grower of tobacco or cotton will be "a tipped purveyor and professional friend to tippling fishermen."

That the South is willing to sacrifice moral and even religious principles for the proverbial mess of pottage is illustrated by the repeal of Prohibition. A five-decade battle against Demon Rum culminated in every Southern state giving its consent to the Eighteenth Amendment. Some who felt that they knew the region well believed that Prohibition had become the Eleventh Commandment, a fixed principle of morality and religion, a fruition of the Southern combination of puritanism and reticence. The unexpected happened. All the Southern states except Mississippi repealed Prohibition. A New York dominated national administration wanted the revival of the liquor industry as a means of escaping the Great Depression of 1929. At its behest, the Baptist and life-long Prohibitionist who was governor of Virginia changed his views overnight. Revenue-hungry Southern politicians saw in a revived liquor traffic a rich source of income. The South Carolina legislature, half repentant over its violation of a righteous heritage, reenacted Prohibition on condition that substitute revenues be found for the inevitable losses. No substitute was found and South Carolina continued wet.

At present the South is confronted with the greatest temptation of its history. It is offered a special favor if it will make a special concession. The special favor is a larger proportion of the Federal aids to education proposed by the Truman administration. The special concession is that the South admit both races to the same school. Since Reconstruction the region has maintained separate schools for the two races. Recently under the influence of its liberal thinkers it has accepted the principle that the Negro schools should be as well supported financially as those of the whites. Outsiders reject this compromise, asserting that the schools should be used to iron out the greatest American social distinction, namely,

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(40) Calvin Kytie, "A Long, Dark Night for Georgia?" Harper's Magazine, vol. 197, pp. 57-58 (September, 1946)

(41) The Tennessee (New York, 1948) II, 305.



that between Southern white and Southern Negro. The Truman Civil Rights Commission asserts that so great is the blight of the separation of the Negro from the white caste that equality coming from equal financial support of separate school systems is illusory. It is hinted that federal appropriations be allocated only to those school systems which mix the races.

If the Truman administration carries out this threat to the bi-racial school, the South may swallow the bait. It adheres uncritically to the quantitative theory of school improvements, that the bigger the appropriations and the larger the enrollments the better the schools. It smarts under the humiliation of being constantly reminded that it does not spend as much on its schools as other sections of the United States. If it consents to having the two races together in the same classrooms, the resentment created thereby will be comparable to that induced by the forced equalities of the Reconstruction period. Such a reaction would be natural because the reform if carried out in good faith would mean a free mingling of the sexes of the two races. Thereby would result the problem of interracial marriage, an inevitable outcome in a country where young people choose their mates with a minimum of parental interference.

A pertinent question at this point is: Does the country wish to supplement the democracy of mixed schools by the democracy of miscegenation? The South feels that were it to accept the latter reform the mulatto South thereby created would be jimmied by other Americans in very much the same manner as it today jimmies the Negro.

"I wish," said a Georgia professor recently, "that Miss Lillie would come back to life and drive the rascals out with her broomstick." The Georgian was referring to Mildred D. Rutherford, a publicist who defended the South by sharp attacks on Northerners, and to the imported critics of Southern ways in Southern universities who have created an inferiority complex among Southern youths. These critics make comparisons between the region's creature comforts and those of the rest of the nation: the comparative scarcity of house paint, plumbing, hospital beds, individual wealth, balanced diets, neat lawns and barns, magazine and newspaper readers, new automobiles, and the thousand and one conveniences and tricks which distinguish Northern life. They have established the legend of a gully-washed land inhabited by a lazy and contented people.

The South has taken to heart these criticisms and derived much benefit from them. It does not want to experience again the privations of the 1860's when war cut communications with the more progressive section of the United States. At the same time there should be a measuring of Northern criticisms. Perhaps what is said today may be a mere repetition of British travelers condemnation, a hundred years ago, of Kentucky for being shabbier and poorer than very neat and very rich Ohio. Such criticism was as unintelligent as condemning you or me as a wastrel because neither of us is as rich as the richest man in town. Because the South today is not as rich as the rest of the richest country on earth does not prove that the region below the Potomac is poor and unprogressive. The region is fabulously rich compared with the neighboring countries of Central and South America, richer indeed than any large area of the world outside

the United States.

It is time to be philosophical about Southern backwardness. History and geography explain in part the relative lack of material progress. An additional explanation is that the people of the section, in the name of worldly ease or Christian ideals, prefer contentment to chasing after material values which do not lead to paradise. "In taking on work," says a discerning student of the sectional differences, (42) "the new South has not forgotten everything else." The Southerner's conception of common sense is not gratified by spending all his idle moments or all his years of retirement in keeping his house and garden perfectly neat, as many Northerners do; his sense of values calls for recreations, even dissipations, at the expense of physical perfections. The self-respecting Southerner, unlike the self-respecting Northerner, is not absorbed by the need of saving for old age. If worse come to worse the Southerner can achieve social security at the expense of usually willing relatives.

Recent history is characterized by renewed challenges to the principle of minority self-determination. Northern political parties, vying for the support of Negro migrants, again are demanding the blotting out of many of the South's race distinctions. The South is able to strike back, not only with a show of justice, but with a good chance of being able to maintain its traditional position. It feels that it has the Constitution on its side in matters of intimate concern. It believes that America is not ready to become a consolidated democracy at the expense of the concept of the federal republic. It believes it possesses the right to deal with the blacks within the limits of the national conscience. What it does may violate widely held concepts of democracy; but so does the prevailing capitalistic system of America with its ill-gotten gains and its unequal distribution of wealth.

The pressures in favor of national standardization have been great and the surrenders numerous. One critic finds the South "a sheer love of the up-to-date," a conscious going "after a streamlined industrialization that is elsewhere not so expressly planned," and "a triumphant 'progressive' education which progresses even faster than in the North and which has been rushing school systems off into a life of sin as fast as they are born." (43) Nevertheless the South is proud of the fact that for sixty years it has been able to couple an unsuspected loyalty to the nation with customs and folkways which vary most from the national monotony. It retains its own manners, its own speech, its own temperament, and those thousand and one subtle peculiarities through which the uniformity of the section with the nation turns out to be more a myth than a reality. The Southern people, says Professor Norman Foerster after ten years' absence from North Carolina, (44) "impress one at once with their different voices, different accent, their sense of manners, the courtesy that appears in all classes, their organic folksiness (as if of one family), their awareness of the past as a force both hampering and helping."

(42)

Norman Foerster in North Carolina Historical Review, XXIII, 224 (April, 1946)

(43)

Robert E. Hellman in Allen Tate, ed., op.cit., 127

(44)

Op. loc., XXIII, 222.

The typical Southerner is too unconscious of his provincial peculiarities to feel that they need defending. There are others who know enough about the assaults from the outside to strike back. They feel that the inhabitants of the region understand its problems better than sociological and pedagogical engineers from the North, that they have as much right to maintain their social distinctions as other sections of a class and hierarchy-ridden world. They believe that the preservation of civilization as they understand it hinges on the prevention of the contamination of race that Richard M. Weaver<sup>(45)</sup> says is poison to a well disciplined social order.

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(45) Ideas Have Consequences (Chicago, 1948)

The third and final lecture before the Social Science Round Table was given on May 6, 1949, by Dr. Wayland J. Hayes, Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Hayes appeared under the sponsorship of the Division of Sociology and Rural Life, of which Dr. Harold Kaufman is head. Dr. W. P. Carter, Professor of Sociology, introduced Dr. Hayes at the Round Table meeting.

Dr. Hayes is past president (1948) of the Southern Sociological Society. He has written many books and articles on the subject of the rural community and its problems. His most recent book is entitled The Small Community Looks Ahead. The subject of his address before the Round Table was "Some Problems of Community Leadership."

The visit of Dr. Hayes to the campus was timed so as to coincide with a meeting of Sociologists from Mississippi and western Alabama, who held a conference on the Mississippi State College campus on May 6. These visiting Sociologists were guests of the Round Table during the evening meeting at which Dr. Hayes spoke. Visitors were present from the University of Alabama, the University of Mississippi, Millsaps College, Mississippi College, Delta State Teachers College, and a half dozen junior colleges through the state.



## SOME PROBLEMS OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Wayland J. Hayes  
Vanderbilt University

You are to be congratulated on holding this sub-regional meeting of social scientists. You are doing something highly desirable for yourselves, and you are blazing a trail which many are likely to follow in other areas. It is all very well for many to have their interest and study focused on global and national relations; but unless much more attention is given to the rootage of society the top branches are likely to wither.

You have been holding a seminar dealing with some of your most challenging problems, and you have given me the distinct honor and privilege of presenting other matters for consideration. My chief desire is to stimulate further discussion, and thus continue the process which you have already set in motion. Like all speakers I have an important topic. In fact I have never known a speaker who addressed himself to anything which was unimportant. If so, it was not mentioned.

I want to speak about some problems of community leadership. The matter is probably important because you are surrounded by leaders. You are in something like the position of the Negro who was asked what time he went to work. His reply was, "Boss, I don't go to work. When I wakes up I is surrounded wid it." I say that you are surrounded with leaders because you are engaged in college work. An admissions officer asked all parents whose sons applied for entrance, "Is your son a leader?" One answer stated, "I do not believe my son is a leader, but he is a good and thoughtful follower." The president of the college asked the parent to send this son by all means. He stated that the freshman class would be made up of 288 leaders, and he was particularly anxious to have one follower in the class.

When we begin to get serious, our first problem is one of definition. There are many studies and books on leadership and many others on community and community organizations. The two phenomena of community and leadership are occasionally studied as a relationship, but there is no landmark to which we can point as a definitive study. One book opens with the sentence: "A leader is a person who exerts special influence over a number of people," and in the last paragraph states, "Leadership is a process whereby one person influences large numbers of persons in important situations." In between these two statements there are numerous chapters dealing with origins, types, and characteristics of leaders. Other studies discover, not so much the influence of the leader upon others, but the reciprocal relationship in given situations whereby leadership is produced or developed by the view others take of particular persons and their response to the group. The scope of this paper will not permit a thorough examination of the meaning of leadership, but there is pretty general agreement that it is an aspect of social interaction, and does not arise from some mystical inheritance of physical and mental traits possessed by individuals.

While it is my purpose to suggest leadership definition and characteristics for possible discussion

and research I do not intend to dwell on these. To provide background for a more extensive review of problems I hastily take a leaf from my own previous analysis of community leadership. We know that social control and order in communities are secured through the established ways of operation, i.e. the institutions. Thus, the religious, economic, educational, governmental and other practices are well established and pretty definitely organized. But they are not wholly automatic and continuous on the basis of habit alone. They must be kept operative by special persons charged with this responsibility. Such persons as ministers, teachers, officers of the law, business executives have special jobs to perform. They keep alive the beliefs and practices which constitute the major part of community life. They are community leaders not in the sense that they do anything new or different. But they serve to maintain the ways of the people as they have been developed out of past experience. Such leaders are for the most part mechanical or serve as mechanisms. Their functions or services are defined and they fit into the wheels or slots of community machinery and thereby promote normal operation. They are the institutional community leaders. We shall mention some problems connected with them later on.

Then, there are what I have called situational leaders-- those who arise in crises when institutional machinery breaks down or functions so badly that community relations can't go on. It is their business to define the new or emergent situation and offer a plan of action which will restore or advance the community in the achievement of tolerable or satisfactory living conditions. Some of the crises which bring out this kind of leader are natural catastrophes as floods, fires, tornados, earthquakes, dust storms, crop failures, and the like; and such social breaks as economic failures and depressions; excessive migration; and many other relatively sudden developments. Under the tensions and strains of such developments people are highly suggestible and frequently accept a course of action which is unwise or even in the long run destructive.

Both institutional and situational leaders may be dictatorial in their methods. If a people have been dependent over a long period of time they expect their teachers, preachers, public officials, and other institutional leaders to tell them what to do and just how to do it. They look to their leaders as authorities or as loving, wise, considerate parents who know what is good for their children. Or they may expect their leaders to be stern and demanding rather than considerate. In any case the community is regarded as immature and incapable of independence by its leaders; and the people think of themselves as fortunate or unfortunate but, in any case, dependent. They may be docile most of the time and only occasionally get out of hand or rebellious. Even when they are in an ugly mood they come to heel when cajoled, reprimanded, ordered, or punished. They are sometimes praised or rewarded for faithfulness and hard labor.

I hope you will forgive the facetious reference to the army officer who was told by a chaplain that 10 men had been converted in another regiment of the armed services. He immediately detailed twenty men to receive the rites of baptism so that his outfit would not be outdistanced in any way. This may be a bit strained as an instance of dictatorial methods, but it is not hard to find communities which are urged

to do something primarily because they are to excell some other community.

In contrast to institutional and situational leadership there is what I would like to call the creative type. It is true that institutional and situational leaders may also be creative, but this is relatively rare. By creative leaders we refer to the type which does not get bogged down in routine to the point of losing sight of functions to be served, nor does the creative person wait until a breakdown or crisis in community relations is brought on by catastrophe or malfunctioning. The creative leader is one who understands what the existing community relationships are and comprehends some of the weak or inadequate aspects of the community life. He is one who is able to assist the community to become aware of its common life and the adjustments which might lead to greater general satisfaction. He is able to advise or get assistance in the process of determining what action the community is able and wishes to take. In other words, he is the mechanism through which the community becomes aware of itself, its problems, and its desire for action. He is not a mechanism in the maintenance of routine nor a paternal or dictatorial authority who defines and directs a course of action. He makes the community increasingly independent of himself and his leadership. He releases the potential power and energy which is resident in the people of any community. He leads people to inquire about and study all aspects of their common life; and facilitates the process of group decision.

We have now arrived somewhat hastily at a definition or conception of community leadership as a phase of the process of community control and the maintenance of order on the one hand and community development through orderly and rational change on the other. We have called attention to three types of leaders and their functions. Some mention has been made of the general authoritarian and democratic methods which may characterize leadership. Some suggestion of the community process and the methods of leadership being creative has been made. We are now ready to examine a few of the problems of research, training, and practice in community leadership.

The first problem is like the first problem in cooking---cooking a rabbit, for instance. One must first have a rabbit before the cooking process can begin. We are acutely aware of the shortage of doctors, nurses, teachers, welfare workers, recreation leaders and many other types of professional personnel. It has recently been suggested that a talent hunt be set in motion to scour the whole nation for the most promising young people we have in order to train them for the many services which are needed. In fact, we do have a more liberal scholarship and fellowship policy in many of our colleges and universities in order to encourage those who have genuine ability but who may be financially handicapped. When we were engaged in armed conflict no effort was spared to search out any and all who had the desire and capacity for any kind of leadership. Although favoritism and political influence might have been present in some of the selections and promotions which were made, the emergency and need were so great the men of ability were chosen without too much regard for their former position in civilian life. Dr. Donant of Harvard, among others, has advocated a searching out and utilization of our potential leadership material in times

of peace as in war. In fact it has been pointed out that we are now in competition with other nations and peoples who are mobilizing all their power to advance themselves internally and among other nations. We cannot afford to be snug and assume that adequate leadership will emerge to meet every need which we may face. I have been impressed by the reply that many leaders themselves give when they are asked to name their major problems. Almost invariably they put the problem of recruiting an adequate number of competent leaders as the most outstanding problem.

In the South where we are moving from a very dominant emphasis on agriculture toward a more balanced economic base we are certain to have serious changes in our whole institutional life. Population is becoming mobile and more of our people will be concentrated in larger towns and cities. Occupational changes have already taken place and many more are under way. The need for professional services, already very acute, will continue to increase. It should be obvious that community disorganization is likely to occur along with other forms we can readily anticipate. Persons with training in administration, planning, and coordination are already in demand, but there is every probability that the supply will lag behind the need.

This matter of supply and recruitment of leaders strikes us first as a practical problem of quantity and quality. But it has many implications for training and research. We think, for instance, that much talent is being drained into business because the possible rewards seem so attractive. There is a probability that more are being drawn into business, legal, and some technological pursuits than can be satisfactorily occupied or utilized. In the hit or miss process of choosing or selecting personnel and potential leadership there is likely to be considerable waste and frustration of talent and many other concomitant problems which suggest research. Furthermore the drainage of talent away from smaller communities needs to be understood more fully. The inadequate quantity and poor quality of much small community leadership is pretty well known and some of the factors producing the condition are also understood. But we need more studies of the situations which have attracted or kept high grade public servants and forward looking civic minded leaders in some communities.

We have stated that many persons connected primarily with one institution such as church, school, business, or government are community leaders. This means that in some instances a doctor of medicine is not only concerned with his practice, but that he serves the community as a counsellor on family, educational, business, and other community affairs. He may be so public spirited and far seeing as to suggest improvements and developments and lead in the community process of investigation, reflection and decision. I visited a few weeks ago the home of a rural minister. I entered a very attractive and ample living room of his house. This formed an L with another fairly large room--the minister's library and study. While I was paying my call the local grade school teacher came in and talked about some educational matters of concern to certain children and their families and to the community generally. Also, while I was there a member of the forestry service came in to arrange for a picnic and public meeting to celebrate the award of distinction to certain farms and farmers meeting high standards of forestry. After these persons had gone I looked at some maps of the community which the minister had in his library. These maps indicated the soil types, the type



and state of forests, the agricultural use, the ownership, indebtedness, and many other facts concerning the land within the community. The minister was assisting many who were in process of purchasing and improving their farms. Much heavy machinery had been purchased and managed cooperatively under his leadership. This machinery was housed on the premises adjoining the Stone church which the people had built themselves under his inspiration. He was a member of the hospital and school boards in the county-seat community some 14 miles distant. In other words, he was a minister of the gospel of words and at the same time a minister of the gospel of works. He was working away at the job of bringing the "Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven." One could go on and cite farmers, business men, and teachers who play a much larger role in their communities than the performance of their strict institutional function. This does not mean they neglect their calling or perform badly in their main job. It simply means that they relate what they are doing and participate in the larger and more comprehensive life of the community.

One of the problems we may be facing is that this kind of behavior is decreasing. The shoemaker may be sticking closer to his last and the doctor to his office or clinic. In other words it may be that our specialists are much better trained and more competent as specialists and they may have less time and less interest for wider relationships. Some very prominent persons in the medical profession have called on their colleagues to recover their social relation in community leadership or suffer the penalty of becoming a mere trade. Medical groups sometimes behave more like trade unions than professions, as we well know. And it is interesting that some of the most prominent medical statesmen are defining medicine as a social science rather than a physical science or art.

My point, however, is not to pick on the doctors. I could just as readily have asked whether ministers are not sticking closer to their pulpits and their words than they are to the sheep of their pastures. The problem is to determine whether the trend toward specialization has left the community more or less stranded as a whole because each is working at his own thread without knowing what the whole pattern looks like or whether he is concerned with the warp or woof -- in fact, he may not be sure he is weaving at all. The thread may be simply passing through his hands. If there is a narrowing attention through specialization, what are the factors which bring it about? While we are on this matter we might as well raise the question, What professions or occupations, if any, are most frequently associated with community leadership? And what methods, techniques, or modes of behavior characterize their leadership? There is, it seems to me, genuine need for more case studies of community leadership. We have such studies for celebrated persons, but few for those who lead in different types and levels of community life. These studies would reveal the origin and experience of those who move into leadership positions. We have studies, of course, concerning the principal sources from which certain professions have been drawn, but we have little, if any, insight concerning the situations out of which those who develop community leadership emerge.

We might venture the hypothesis that paternalistic community leadership comes from old dominant families who have passed it on to sons for several generations as a means of maintaining their vested interest in the

dominant business of the community. The leadership or dominance of the X family in Middletown might be a case in point. It might be equally true that get-rich-quick persons frequently take a paternalistic and condescending interest in maintaining the order or status quo of their communities. It must be recognized that some paternalism is a transmission of outside control through a local boss or dictator. Mussolini and Hitler had their community level dictators who transmitted power from the top through something like a military hierarchy. Some of our own local leadership is a form of transmission of power and authority from the outside. This is sometimes true of villages and towns engaged in extraction of minerals or other natural products or in manufacturing or processing a single product.

Paternal and dictatorial leadership is a form of ego-inflation, and gratification. It might be guessed, on the other hand, that creative leaders come out of creative situations. I was particularly impressed by the creative role of the few leaders I knew in the early days of F.S.A. Some of them were doing the work at some sacrifice of salary and security of tenure elsewhere. The few that I met not only delighted in the development of independence and self reliance of persons and groups; but they had come out of homes in which the father or mother had been engaged in creative community work. I had just enough contact to make me interested in what a number of life histories might indicate so far as creative leadership is concerned.

#### The Training or Education of Leaders

In some college catalogues one may find course offerings in the sociology of leadership or the psychology of leadership in which some principles and hypotheses are presented. Similarly, chapters on leadership appear in textbooks on social psychology, social control, public opinion, and other aspects of collective behavior. But in the main, it is safe to say that attempts to give direct training and guided experience in community leadership are quite rare indeed. There are a very few schools devoted to public administration and planning which give theoretical and intensive training. The University of North Carolina offers a program in planning and another in health education on the graduate level which includes field experience under guidance in developing community resources and potentialities for optimum physical well being. Some schools of welfare training offer scattered courses and experience in "group work" which seldom involve any conception of total or integrated community life. Stray courses here and there in adult education emphasize community-wide leadership. A few agricultural colleges are addressing themselves directly to the problem; but heretofore education for extension workers has emphasized technological training and left the psychological and sociological approach largely to chance or trial and error.

It is doubtful whether we know just what should go into leadership training or just what the aims of such training should be. It is interesting that many teachers colleges are developing a considerable amount of enthusiastic talk about community-centered schools; but the talk is seldom backed up by any substantial courses in either theory or practice. A few local schools here and there are pointed to as examples of what is meant by community-centered schools but few of them survive much longer than it takes to write an article about them. The few such schools which survive any length of time and actually succeed in developing a

community-wide educational program are found to rest on sound and sustained leadership. They are not automatic systems or mechanisms which go on regardless of the rapid turnover of teaching personnel -- the curse of much work in education.

I am suggesting therefore, that much research and experimentation must go on if we are to learn what can be done towards direct training for community leadership. We also need to study what could be added, if anything, which might broaden specialized professional training of doctors, ministers, and others. They need some insight, motivation, and technique for leading in the community process.

One thing is certain, if we are to make any headway towards the training of creative rather than dictatorial leadership we must learn how to alter much of the present emphasis in education which confuses education with salesmanship. Many persons now engaged in various programs and forms of community organizations are thoroughly convinced that they must "sell" or "put over" the program on the people. The assumption is that the community is made up of customers, clients, patients, patrons, who need this or that to be done for them, or to them. The community is to be served, saved, persuaded, induced, ordered, and otherwise ministered unto. All too frequently the assumption is made that the people are inert, ignorant, backward, and even unintelligent. It is sometimes assumed that the leader is one who is superior in knowledge, understanding, foresight, and that his job is to instruct, tell, plan, and carry out that which is good for people.

Creative leadership makes no such assumptions and therefore does not seek to impose or direct action. It assumes that people have ability to think for themselves and will make wise decisions and choices if and when they grasp the meaning of their own situation. It assumes that much of the dependence, defeat, and inertia which exists in many communities has been learned and transmitted through many years of subservience and bondage. It is assumed that it is not easy to get people to believe in their own freedom and their own capacity to make decisions for themselves. It assumes that community development or advancement toward deliberate and rational decision must come slowly and through patient efforts and genuine faith on the part of the leader. In a competitive society like ours this is hard for the leader himself to learn and believe and practice. We have a way of regarding the normal curve of probability as a curve of mediocrity with a few elite, thank God, at the top to shepherd all the 87.5 per cent of the major and minor sheep which fall below. We seldom take the position that the 87.5 per cent above the stupid may become free and self directing people. As long as we look at the curve one way we move in the direction of Hitlerism and Stalinism it doesn't matter how loudly we cry out in favor of freedom and democracy. Some who cry the loudest are most like these German and Russian leaders who frankly regard the masses as sheep to be fed and sheared.

#### Some of the Practical Problems

When we consider the practical problems of community leadership the first is that of supply or quality which was mentioned earlier. There are nowhere near enough competent persons in educational, religious, welfare, governmental and other socially constructive work. But, for the remainder of this brief summary of problems we shall focus on a few of the difficulties with which competent persons must deal when they

engage in community leadership.

The fact is that setting people free from various forms of bondage is a difficult and discouraging business. If there were not a number of cases of success it might be viewed as an impossible relationship. The apathy, indifference, and smugness of most communities looms like an impenetrable wall. The lack of civic consciousness and sense of social responsibility may be so low that it is difficult to find at all. Vested interests not only exercise control and manipulate relations to their own advantage, but they are skillful in blocking all approaches which might dislodge them. There are vast numbers of organized but ineffective programs in existence. And there is frequent conflict between classes, races, age levels, business groups, churches, and many other elements of the community. Levels and standards of living may be low, and people may be engaged in wasting their already depleted stock of resources. Folk ideas, beliefs, and practices may be opposed to scientific and rational attack. The general attitude may be essentially fatalistic or defeatist. Contemplation of the total situation in many communities may excite such emotional states as pity, wrath and compassion. One can sympathize with the cry, "Oh, Jerusalem, Jerusalem which killest the prophets and stonest them which are sent unto thee." The reaction of the people of Nazareth to Joseph's Son led to the conclusion that "No prophet is accepted in his own country."

Aside from the problems presented by the people of the community there are frequently a number of difficulties among the leaders themselves. They are sometimes caught in authoritarian relationships, and are not free. The army is not the only organization in which the subordinates are not to "reason why" or make decisions suited to the situation. Bureaucratic control reaches down through church, educational, governmental, and business organizations to direct local thought and activity. Frequently a potentially creative leader is discouraged or smothered by higher ups who do not build staff organization on freedom and trust. People are sometimes employed to do something constructive and then blocked by the very organization which should support them. This is so common in education that little time need to be spent on demonstrating it. Another practical problem is the demand for speed. Programs of community development are set up to be achieved within certain time limits. When the time is exhausted the personnel and program must be withdrawn. This is quite unrealistic. It may result in wasted effort or, what is worse, the idea that nothing can be accomplished. Community processes are generally slow and any attempt to speed them up is likely to produce insignificant or superficial results.

A survey of problems interspersed with notes of criticism is certainly a bitter and sour dish with which to close a dinner meeting. But I hasten to suggest that there is sweetness in the cup of community leadership. It is not all problems and discouragement, because it provides an opportunity to foster and witness growth. All growth requires increased hardihood to withstand the vicissitudes of living. Maturity itself refers to realistic management of difficulty. This is the goal of community development.

Since this is also the goal of personal development, we may close with an analogy. All of us who achieve intellectual and moral maturity can look back on the process by which we have arrived at our



present state. We recognize that our development occurred as we came to understand ~~the~~ conditions with which we were dealing and to understand ourselves. We get nowhere by attempting to feel ourselves or others, and we get nowhere by running away from our difficulties or exhausting ourselves through expressions of rage. We find that the age old advice of "know thyself," and "ye shall know the ~~truth~~ and the truth shall set you free" are not cliches nor abstract copy book mottoes. They are basic principles for self development.

These principles also furnish the key to community leadership and community ~~development~~. All the community leader can ever hope to do is to get the community to know itself thoroughly -- not as the Chamber of Commerce would have it know its advantages only, but all its shortcomings as well. When the community, through the function of leadership, comes to know the truth about itself it not only ~~may~~, but it is likely to, make wise decisions and choose a constructive course. Man is not so stupid ~~than~~ the knowingly and deliberately chooses a course which is contrary to his own satisfaction and survival. When he knows the whole truth he goes far toward freeing himself.

## THE SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWS BULLETIN

(A Monthly News Survey Sponsored by the Social Science Council)

February, 1949

Mississippi State College

Vol. I, No. 2

This is the second issue of the Bulletin, which was begun in December, 1948 as a project of the Social Science Council, which consists of the Social Science Departments in the School of Business and Industry. The response to the first issue was very encouraging and the various Social Science agencies on the campus have been exceedingly helpful in contributing news items. An effort will be made to include everything in the way of local or general news of interest to persons in the Academic, Experiment Station, and Extension branches of the college. Suggestions are welcome for additions to the mailing list as well as for improvements in the content and make-up of the Bulletin. Address correspondence to Dr. John K. Bettersworth, Box 148, Campus, or telephone 593-W.

### CREATION OF DIVISION OF SOCIOLOGY AND RURAL LIFE

The Educational Committee of the Board of Trustees has approved the creation of a Division of Sociology and Rural Life. Dr. Mitchell has announced the appointment of Dr. Harold F. Kaufman, Thomas L. Bailey Professor, as head of the division. Other members of the Sociology and Rural Life staff include Dr. William Paul Carter Professor and head of the instructional department of Sociology; Mr. Howard Nicely, Assistant Professor; Mr. Harald A. Pedersen, Assistant Professor; and Mr. D. W. Rivers, Instructor.

The resident teaching of the Division will be conducted in the School of Business and Industry, where the instructional program will be handled by Dr. Carter. Organized research will be done in the Agricultural Experiment Station, while off-campus teaching will be done through the Agricultural Extension Service. Such expansion in sociology seems appropriate in the State where Henry Hughes, of Port Gibson, produced the first sociological study in the English-speaking world, Treatise on Sociology, Theoretical and Practical, (1854).

### SOCIAL SCIENCE ROUND TABLE

A series of monthly Social Science get-togethers will begin in February under the joint sponsorship of the Social Science Council and the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Life. At these get-togethers there will be a "Dutch" dinner, followed by a lecture delivered by some prominent authority in the Social Science field.

The present plans include one lecture to be sponsored by the Department of History and Government, one by the Department of Agricultural Economics, and one by the Thomas L. Bailey Chair of Rural Life. These will complete the fare for the current semester. It is planned to invite each Social Science department in the college to sponsor visiting lecturers in rotation.

The first meeting will be held in the "Y" banquet room at 6:00 P.M., February 21st. At this meeting the plans for the round table will be outlined in detail. Reservations can be made by contacting Dr. John K. Bettersworth or Professor John C. Redman. All Social Scientists and other interested persons are invited to attend. Plates will be seventy-five cents per person.

## PUBLICATIONS

Two recent bulletins issued by the Extension Department are (1) Farm and Home Outlook, 1949, an attractive printed folder containing a great deal of useful information for the Agriculturists of Mississippi; (2) Your 1948 Income Tax, which contains a number of helpful hints to farmers in preparing their income tax returns.

## A "SUPER Ph.D."

The new School for Social Research has announced a "Super Ph.D." for candidates in the Social Science field who have already received the conventional Ph.D. degree. The new degree is to be known as "Doctor of Social Sciences." According to press releases the new degree is "an attempt to meet the need for developing scholars and teachers capable of integrating the various social sciences and capable of becoming thoroughly useful instructors at the college and university level."

## LECTURE ACTIVITIES

On Monday, February 7th, Professor W. J. Evans, of the Government staff, spoke to the Presbyterian Woman's Auxiliary of Starkville on "Political and Economic Aspects of Modern China."

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Dr. John K. Bettersworth delivered a lecture to the State College Sorosis Club on January 26th on the subject, "The Role of Great Britain in Present World Affairs, with Particular Reference to the United States Relations." On February 21st, Dr. Bettersworth will speak to the Rotary Club of Aberdeen, Miss., on the subject, "George Washington - Man and Hero."

\* \* \*

Mr. Gordon K. Bryan, of the History and Government Department, lectured in January to the Public Speaking classes on the topic, "Political and Administrative Factors Involved in Federal Aid to Public Education." On February 9th, Mr. Bryan addressed the "Y" Council on the subject, "Current Problems in Legislative Procedure, with Emphasis Upon the Proposed Amendments to the Cloture Rule to Combat Filibustering in the U.S. Senate."

\* \* \*

On February 23rd, Dr. W. P. Carter will speak to the Sorosis Club on "Parent-Child Problems."

\* \* \*

Dr. O. T. Osgood, of the Department of Agricultural Economics, addressed a group of dairy leaders on February 3rd at Biloxi, Mississippi, on the subject, "Land-Use Patterns in Relation to Dairy Production for Manufacturing."

## GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Department of Agricultural Economics announces the following students doing graduate work: Chester M. Wells, Robert L. Davis, Lewis P. Jenkins, Angelo J. Garbarino, Aubie C. Davis, James W. Marshall, and Charles V. James.

The Department of History and Government has the following enrolled as graduate History majors for the semester: J. J. Hayden, Jr., Mrs. Henry Ware, Guy B. Braden, Robert L. Saul, Mrs. E. V. Patterson, and Donald B. Jones.

## RURAL SOCIOLOGY RESEARCH FINDINGS

Studies now being conducted in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology show that Mississippi is at the bottom of the list when the states are ranked in order of the general level of living of farm people. When the level of living is measured in terms of characteristics enumerated in both the 1940 and 1945 census, the state index is 22 for 1940 and the national average is 80. For 1945 the comparable figures are 32 and 100. Whereas the mean level for the nation showed an increase of only 20 percent during the five year period, that for Mississippi increased 45 percent.

Three relationships within the state with respect to level of living have been noted: (1) If the composite index is broken up into white and nonwhite components, the level of living for the white farm families approaches the average level for the South, but it is still considerably below the average for the nation. (2) The farm families living in areas of advanced urban-industrial development have a higher level of living than the farm people in areas which are distinctly rural. (3) The areas of advanced urban-industrial development made greater gains during the five-year period than the distinctly rural areas. These trends tend to support the emphasis in many Mississippi communities on industrial expansion as a means of raising the level of living of their people. — Harald Pedersen.

## DEGREE CONFERRED

Mr. Charles R. Ashford, of the Extension Service, received his M.S. degree with a major in Agricultural Economics in January, 1949.

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Professor F. V. McMillen is devoting a portion of his time during the Spring semester to research on the Delta and Pine Land Company, under the sponsorship of the Department of History and Government.

## RURAL SOCIOLOGY EXTENSION PROGRAM

Dr. Harold Kaufman has outlined projected work for Rural Sociology in 1949 as follows:

- (1) To make "get-acquainted" trips into the counties with the district agents and specialists.
- (2) To survey types of organizations used in extension work.
- (3) To get acquainted with ministers with special interest in rural life and explore possibility of holding a short conference during Farm and Home Week.
- (4) To begin building social data files organized on a county and an institutional basis.
- (5) To answer calls to meet with interested groups as much as time permits.

## LIBRARY DONATION

Dr. Glover Moore of the Department of History and Government has presented to the college library a set of Hastings Rashdall's History of the Universities of Europe in the Middle Ages. This work, which is in three volumes, is difficult to obtain and had to be imported from England.



## STAFF CHANGES

In the Department of Agricultural Economics, Professor Jimmie S. Hillman has taken a leave of absence to work on his doctorate at the University of California in the field of international trade and commercial policy. Mr. Bascom K. Doyle, (M.S., L.S.U.), was appointed Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics on September 1. Professor Doyle is doing teaching and research in the field of agricultural marketing. Mr. W. A. Faught, formerly an Agricultural Economist at Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, joined the staff in September as a joint employee of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station. Mr. Faught is project leader of the Regional Cotton Marketing Project, in which 11 states and 4 federal agencies are cooperating. Mr. James P. Gaines, (M.S., L.S.U.), has joined the staff as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics. He will devote his time to research in farm mechanization, a project in which the Experiment Station and the B.A.E. are cooperating. Mr. Gaines filled the position vacated when Mr. Carl B. Danielson resigned last September. Mr. W. Edwin Christian joined the staff as Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics on January 1. Professor Christian did a part of his undergraduate work at State College. After the war, he received his M.S. degree from Iowa State College and has completed a major portion of his work on his doctorate at the University of Chicago. Professor Christian will devote his time to teaching and research in the general area of agricultural marketing.

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB

The International Relations Club, sponsored by Mr. F. V. McMillen of the History Department, will have its first meeting of the new semester in the auditorium of the Biology Building on Thursday, February 17, at 7:30 P.M. Instructors in the Social Sciences are requested to make this announcement to all their classes on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. The Club is trying to build a large membership this semester. There are no particular requirements for membership in this organization, except an interest in current international problems. The Club will meet every two weeks. A definite time and place for meeting will be chosen at the Thursday meeting.

The International Relations Club is a national organization, and is attempting to perform a serious mission in bringing current problems to the attention of college students. From time to time outstanding speakers will address the Club. The cooperation of the faculty in membership drive will be appreciated. Members of the faculty are strongly urged to attend the meetings of the Club and join in its deliberations.

## MISSISSIPPI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Legislature of 1948 passed an act creating the Mississippi Historical Commission, the duty of which is to provide for the erection of suitable markers throughout the state at sites of major importance in the history of Mississippi. The Commission is headed by Dr. W. D. McCain, of the Department of Archives and History at Jackson. As a member of the commission, Dr. John K. Bettersworth attended the initial meeting on February 5 in the office of Dr. McCain in Jackson. Steps have already been taken to prepare a list of suitable locations for the erection of markers, Dr. Bettersworth serving on a sub-committee for the purpose.

## SOCIOLOGY STAFF ITEMS

Dr. Harold Kaufman has assumed instructional duties for the spring semester, offering a course in Rural Community. Mr. Dorris W. Rivers, of the Sociology Department, has been placed on a part-time teaching, part-time research status. He is working on a study of the social and cultural aspects of plantation life. Professor Harald Pedersen is also dividing his time for the current semester between teaching and research.

## AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE MEETING

The Forty-fourth Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association was held at the Palmer House, Chicago, December 28-30, 1948. The program placed primary emphasis upon the field of international affairs, but this did not preclude adequate attention to the traditional areas of the political science discipline. A total of 27 sectional meetings were held, chiefly during the mornings and afternoons, at which the topics discussed ranged over the whole field of government and public administration.

Two events highlighted the three-day meeting. One of these was the presidential address delivered by Dr. Henry R. Spencer, President of the Association, at the evening session on Tuesday, December 28. The other, which was of particular interest to those in the field of local government and public administration, was an open-house held at the Public Administration Clearing House on the campus of the University of Chicago. On this occasion, the members were introduced to the services and facilities of the Clearing House through a tour conducted by Miss Laverne Burchfield. Members also had the pleasure of meeting and talking with Dr. Herbert Emmerich, Chairman, Public Administration Clearing House, Dr. Louis Brownlow, Dr. Don K. Price, and many others prominent in the political science field.

— Gordon K. Bryan

## RECENT LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

United Nations Secretariat. Everyman's United Nations. 1948.  
Dallin, D.Y. Soviet Russia and the Far East. 1948  
Mowrer, E.A. Nightmare of American Foreign Policy. 1948  
Young, K.E., Heirs Apparent. 1948  
Bolivar, Simon, Cartas del Libertador, v. 11. 1948  
Gandhi, M.K., Autobiography. 1948  
Laval, Pierre, Diary. 1948  
Ward, Barbara, The West at Bay. 1948  
Peck, A.M., Pageant of Middle American History. 1947  
Rauch, Basil, American Interests in Cuba: 1848-1855. 1948  
Sherwood, R.E., Roosevelt and Hopkins. 1948

## THE SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWS BULLETIN

A monthly news survey of Social Science activities at Mississippi State College, sponsored by the Social Science Council, which consists of the departments of Economics, History & Government, and Sociology, in the School of Business and Industry; John K. Battersworth, chairman and editor, Box 448, telephone 593-W

Vol. I, No. 3

MARCH, 1949

Office: Magruder 309-B

The Social Science News Bulletin, which was initiated in December, 1948, continues to meet with encouragement from all sides. Dean Weems has forwarded to me a letter from Dr. Mitchell, in which the President expresses his satisfaction with the project. With reference to the February number, Dr. Mitchell writes: "It has been read and I think it excellent." Dr. Mitchell also expressed to all those who have cooperated in the project his appreciation for "this fine piece of work," and he also strongly urged its continuation.

The editor is pleased to report that the news items have been sent in by practically all departments concerned. An attempt will be made to circulate each issue around the 15th of the month. It would be desirable, therefore, for all contributions to be in hand by the 7th of each month.

A new feature has been added in the form of a check list of books published in the Social Science field for each month by the major national publishing houses, so that we may all be informed of the latest publications. It is hoped that this check list will be of service to all departments.

Suggestions as to improvements are welcomed. Also, additional names for the mailing list are desired.

### NICHOLLS TO ADDRESS SOCIAL SCIENCE ROUND TABLE

Dr. William H. Nicholls, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Vanderbilt University, will address the Social Science Round Table at its March meeting, which will be held in the College Grille at 6:30 P.M., Monday, March 21st.

Dr. Nicholls, who is a Kentuckian by birth and by Bachelor's degree, obtained both his advanced degrees at Harvard. Dr. Nicholls has had wide experience not only in teaching and research but also in field work, particularly in governmental agencies. He is past editor of the Journal of Political Economy, and is at present a member of the board of editors of the Board of Economic Review. Dr. Nicholls is author of a number of books in the field of Agricultural Economics, not to mention numerous articles and experiment-station bulletins. One of the fields of specialization in which he has achieved outstanding recognition is that of agricultural prices.

Dr. Nicholls' visit to the campus is made possible by the generosity of Dr. Frank Welch, director of the Mississippi State Experiment Station and Dean of the School of Agriculture, and Dr. R. J. Saville, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. Professor John C. Redman, of the Department of Agricultural Economics, has been in charge of the arrangements for this meeting.

The meeting of the Social Science Round Table for April will be arranged for by the Department of History and Government, while the May meeting will be the responsibility of the Division of Sociology and Rural Life. Details will be given through the Bulletin in advance of these meetings.

It is intended that everyone concerned in any manner with the Social Sciences should be encouraged to attend the Round Table. Its membership is not limited to the formal Social Science Department. Graduate Students and wives are welcome.



## RESERVATIONS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE ROUND TABLE DINNER

The Round Table Dinner at 6:30, March 21, in the Grille, will cost \$1.00. Envelopes will be available at the table for payment of this amount. Reservations may be made by contacting Dr. J. K. Bettersworth (Telephone 593-W) or Professor John C. Redman (Telephone 581-J). A card or a telephone call indicating your intention to be present will be sufficient. Please let us know before noon, Saturday, March 19th.

## COLONEL RANDOLPH PRESENTS GARNER PORTRAIT

On Sunday afternoon, March 6, the G. W. Randolphs entertained members of the History staff at an informal buffet supper at which Col. Randolph presented a portrait of Professor Emeritus A. W. Garner. Col. Randolph, who since his retirement from the Army has divided his time between lecturing in History and painting, has done portraits of Dr. Hand, Mr. Hilbun, and a number of other local people, in addition to the portrait of Professor Garner. The picture will hang in the History office in Lee Hall. At present it will be located in the temporary quarters in Magruder Hall. The portrait is an excellent likeness of Professor Garner and the college is indeed fortunate in having on its staff a portrait painter of such outstanding merit as Col. Randolph.

## REDMAN ADVISOR TO A.F.E. ASSOCIATION UNIT HERE

Students majoring in Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Administration organized a Mississippi State Student section of the American Farm Economic Association last month in Room 104, Montgomery Hall. This is one of the first student sections to be organized in the U.S. under this parent professional organization. Officers elected were W. Otis Davis, President; I. T. Jones, Vice President; Robert E. McCollum, Secretary-Treasurer; B.D. Jordan, Reporter. Professor John C. Redman was named to serve as faculty advisor.

## WATSON ADDRESSES I.R.C.

At the regular meeting of the International Relations Club on March 3, Robert B. Watson, Assistant Professor of Government, delivered an address on the subject, "International Implications of the Communist Movement." Professor Watson talked briefly concerning the historical development of the communist pattern and then proceeded to show how the party "line" inevitably affects the thinking of all individuals. An attitude of vigilance leading toward action rather than passive complacency was the theme of Professor Watson's remarks.

The next I.R.C. meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, at 7 P.M., at which time there will be a banquet in the College Grille. General faculty participation is invited and appreciated.

## BETTERS WORTH TO BE GENERAL EDITOR FOR HISTORICAL COMMISSION

On March 5, Dr. J. K. Bettersworth was chosen General Editor in charge of preparing the inscriptions that will be placed on the markers to be erected in the near future by the Mississippi Historical Commission. The Commission will erect approximately 60 markers during the current year. A tentative choice of the sites to be commemorated was made at the meeting of the Historical Commission in Jackson on March 5. In the Oktibbeha County area the first site to be marked will be that of the Mayhew Indian Mission, which is approximately 12 miles northeast of Starkville.



## BARNARD COMPLETES STUDY OF EUPORA SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Dr. W. H. Barnard, Professor of Education, has just completed a bulletin entitled, A Directed Self-Study of the Eupora Consolidated School System. This study has the backing of a financial grant from the General Education Board, made three years ago. The final report includes a comprehensive study of administration, housing and grounds, the curriculum, the library, and the various activities of both pupil and teacher personnel in the Eupora Consolidated School community. Social and Economic aspects of educational problems in Eupora are taken into consideration. The Eupora school system was chosen largely because it seemed to represent a good cross-section of the average Mississippi rural school area. Copies of the report may be obtained from Dean Brooks or Dr. Barnard.

## KAUFMAN APPOINTED DEPARTMENTAL EDITOR OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY

Dr. Harold F. Kaufman has been appointed one of the four departmental editors of the Journal of Rural Sociology, the official journal of the Rural Sociological Society, published by North Carolina State College.

## SOCIAL SERVICE CURRICULUM

A Social Service Administration curriculum for the training of social workers in welfare agencies, recreational work with boys and girls, rehabilitation, and in probation and parole, has been instituted this year by Dr. William P. Carter, Professor of Sociology in the School of Business and Industry. This curriculum grew out of a demand on the part of the Mississippi State Department of Public Welfare and various private welfare agencies for our college to give undergraduate courses to prepare students to go into social work. For several years representatives of Mississippi colleges have been discussing plans at state wide conferences, and curricula are being drawn up to meet this need. At Mississippi State Dr. Carter serves as major advisor to students majoring in Social Service Administration. The first two years of this curriculum are identical with those of the Public Administration curriculum. The last two years provide a differentiation in subject matter, including a broad variety of courses in Sociology, together with Psychology, Economics, Business, History, Government, and English.

Two new courses have recently been introduced in the Department of Sociology to meet the needs of this new curriculum. The first is entitled "Social Work," which is designed to give a general introduction to the various fields of social work and to acquaint the student with the various techniques used by social workers. The second course, called "Child Welfare," is intended to give the student an acquaintance with the various types and principles of child welfare work.

## INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Professor E. F. Mitchell, head of the Department of Industrial Education at the college, has recently issued a report on the deliberations of a state-wide "Planning Committee for Industrial Arts," which met during the winter at Jackson. Those interested in obtaining copies of the recommendations of this group should contact Professor Mitchell. The recommendations of the committee will be presented to the state high school accrediting commission in March.

# EXTENSION PUBLICATION

The February 23rd issue of Looking Ahead in 1949 has been received from the college Extension Service. This bulletin seeks to inform and advise farmers as to what to expect in the current disturbed condition of farm prices.

## LECTURES

Dr. Harold S. Snellgrove gave a lecture to the Newman Club on the campus on March 9th. His subject was "The Jesuits in New Spain During the Colonial Period."

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Dr. Glover Moore gave a lecture on "The History of Symbolism" to the Canterbury Club on March 9th.

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Dr. J. K. Bettersworth delivered three lectures on George Washington in February. The first lecture was given to the Rotary Club at Aberdeen on February 21st. On Washington's birthday, Dr. Bettersworth spoke to the Senior "Y" Cabinet. On February 23rd, Dr. Bettersworth lectured to the Sturgis Woman's Club on the subject "Washington, Isolationist or Internationalist?" Early in March Dr. Bettersworth spoke to the Starkville chapter of the D.A.R. on the subject, "Historical Aspects of the Race Problem in Mississippi."

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Mr. W. D. Rivers will speak as a member of a symposium on the subject of intercultural relations at the monthly meeting of the local chapter of A.A.U.W. on March 22. Dr. Kaufman will serve as chairman of this symposium. Mr. Rivers and Dr. Kaufman discussed a similar subject at the "Y" Council meeting on February 23.

\* \* \*

Dr. Harold Kaufman gave a radio talk on rural church conditions over W.C.B.I. and three affiliated stations on February 27. He also spoke to the Madison County Home Demonstration Council at Canton on March 4.

## SOCIAL SCIENCE INTEGRATION COMMITTEE

The Social Science Integration Committee is in the process of completing the final draft of its report to the President. The April Bulletin will contain a summary of the recommendations of this committee, together with an account of accomplishments in the form of Social Science integration at the college during the current year.

## PUBLICATION PLANS

Dr. D. W. Parvin has completed a study of farm organization and practices in Newton County which will be published by the Agricultural Experiment Station in the near future.

American Heritage, which is the official journal of the American Association for State and Local History, has arranged with Dr. J. K. Bettersworth to publish the paper on college historiography read by Dr. Bettersworth at the meeting of the Southern Historical Association last November.

## UNIFORM FRESHMAN COURSE

The uniform freshman course recently adopted by the administrative council includes a full year freshman course in American Institutions, which will be taught by the Department of History and Government. This course may be used as a basis for courses which are available in the sophomore year in the Principles of Economics, the Principles of Sociology, and World Institutions. Altogether these courses will make possible an integrated approach to the Social Sciences in the lower level curricula at Mississippi State College. The School of Business and Industry has already adopted the sophomore year and the School of Engineering makes use of a modified form of the same program.

## SOUTHERN SOCIOLOGICAL MEETING

The staff of Sociology and Rural Life are planning to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society to be held in Knoxville, Tennessee on April 1 and 2. Dr. Harold Kaufman is chairman of the Membership Committee this year and reports that the Society has a total of 318 members - the largest membership in its history. The Mississippi membership has an increase both in numbers and percent greater than any other state. The membership this year is 26 as compared with 13 for last year. Eight of this year's members are at State College.

## HONORARY FRATERNITY INSTALLS

Dean R. C. Weems and Professor Norman E. Wier, of the Economics department, assisted in the installation of the State College chapter of Delta Sigma Pi on March 5. Dean Weems is faculty advisor to this group, which is the first honorary business fraternity to be brought to the campus.

## SCIENCE SCHOOL EXPANDS SOCIAL SCIENCE WORK

A revision of the social science and humanities curricula for next year has been announced by Dean Lyle of the Science School. "Greater freedom of choice will be permitted students who are seeking a broad, general education in combinations of social studies, languages, literature, and the sciences," says Dean Lyle. "At the same time, the student will have an opportunity to combine his or her vocational objective with more elective work in literature, social sciences, and language."

## SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL STUDIES

On March 10th and 11th a Southern Regional Conference on Social Studies was held at Tulane University. Dr. J. E. Bettersworth was one of the participants in the discussions, which included sessions on "The Integration of the Social Studies," "Social Science in Public Opinion Research," "Specialization in the Social Studies," and "Application of the Social Studies." Leading the discussion were Professor Merle Curti, of Wisconsin, Dr. Luther E. Evans, Librarian of Congress, and Dr. Clyde W. Hart, University of Chicago Opinion Research Center. A more detailed account of the deliberations of this conference will be included in the April Bulletin.



## BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCE FIELD DURING FEBRUARY

Date

- 1 Koestler, Arthur, Insight and Outlook. Macmillan, \$5.00. (An inquiry into the common foundations of science, art and social ethics).
- Radzinowicz, Leon, A History of English Criminal Law. Macmillan, \$15.00. (Its administration from 1750).
- Schurz, William Lytle, Latin America. Dutton, \$4.50. (A descriptive survey).
- 2 Ansen, Ruth Wanda, The Family. Harper, \$6.00. (The functions and destiny).
- Auerbach, Frank L., The Admission and Resettlement of Displaced Persons in the United States. Common Council for American Unity, \$ .75. (A handbook of legal and technical information for the use of local social & civic agencies).
- Clark, John M., Guideposts in Time of Change. Harper, \$3.00. (Some essentials for a sound American economy).
- Fraser, Grace Lovat, Textiles by Britain. Macmillan, \$6.50. (A survey).
- 8 Bisson, T.A., Prospects for Democracy in Japan. Macmillan, \$2.75. (An appraisal of Japan published under the auspices of the International Secretariat, Institute of Pacific Relations).
- Headlam, A.C., The Fourth Gospel as History. Macmillan, \$2.25.
- 9 Battersby, W.J., De La Salle. Longmans, Green, \$3.50. (17th Century French Education).
- Steinmeyer, Henry G., Staten Island Under British Rule, 1776-83. Staten Island Historical Society, \$ .60. (A pamphlet).
- 14 Deutsch, Albert, The Mentally Ill in America. Columbia Univ. Press, \$5.50. (A history of their care and treatment from Colonial times).
- Jourdain, Margaret, The Work of William Kent, 1684-1748. Scribner, \$15.00. (A biography of the English architect, painter, decorator, designer & gardner).
- Read, Herbert, Education for Peace. Scribner, \$2.75.
- 17 Ramney, John C. & Gwendolen M. Carter, The Major Foreign Powers. Harcourt-Brace, \$7.50. (Governments of Great Britain, France, Soviet Union and China).
- Taylor, Carl C., & Arthur F. Raper, Rural Life in the United States. Knopf, \$5.00. (A survey of rural sociology).
- 18 Carey, William, Poland Struggles Forward. Greenberg, \$3.00. (A study of present-day Poland).
- Einstein, David G., Emperor Frederick II. Philosophical Library, \$4.50. (A biography of the last of the Holy Roman Emperors).
- Fuller, Maj. Gen. J.F.C., The Second World War, 1939-45. Duell, Sloan & Pearce, \$5.00. (A strategical and tactical history).
- 21 McLean, Joseph E., The Public Service and University Education. Princeton Univ., \$3.75.
- 22 Davila, Carlos, We of the Americas. Ziff-Davis, \$3.50. (An analysis of inter-American relations from the Am. Revolution to the Bogota Conference in 1948).
- 24 Butler, George D., Introduction to Community Recreation. McGraw-Hill, \$4.50.
- Cole, G.D.H., World in Transition. Oxford Univ., \$6.00. (A guide to the shifting political and economic forces of our times).
- Rautenstrach, Walter, & Raymond Villers, The Economics of Industrial Management. Modern Industry: Funk & Wagnalls, \$5.00.
- 25 Hatcher, Harlan, The Western Reserve: The Story of New Connecticut in Ohio. Bobbs-Merrill, \$2.00.
- 26 Mikesell, Raymond F., and Hollis B. Cherney, Arabian Oil: America's Stake in The Middle East. Univ. of North Carolina, \$3.50.



## THE SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWS BULLETIN

A monthly news survey of Social Science activity at Mississippi State College sponsored by the Social Science Council, which consists of the departments of Economics, History & Government, and Sociology, in the School of Business and Industry; John K. Betterworth, chairman and editor, Box 148, telephone 593-W

Vol. I, No. 4

APRIL, 1949

Office: Magruder B-309

This is the fourth issue of the Bulletin and the next to the last to be published during the current semester. One issue will be circulated about the middle of July to cover summer activities, and regular monthly publication for the fall semester will be resumed in September. It is hoped that the May issue will be able to list projected summer activities for all of the Social Science people at Mississippi State College. Everyone is therefore urged to submit news of summer plans by May 2nd for inclusion in this final Bulletin of the academic year.

### SIMKINS TALKS ON "NEW SOUTH" AT APRIL ROUND TABLE

Dr. Francis Simkins, of L.S.U., author of the best-seller, The South Old and New (Knopf, N.Y., 1947), has consented to address the Social Science Round Table at its regular monthly meeting on April 18, on the subject "How Old is the New South?"

The intriguing subject of the origins of the various social, intellectual and economic movements associated with the new South movement will be the topic of Dr. Simkins' talk at Mississippi State. Much of what is associated with the development of the South since the Civil War and reconstruction period actually seems to have originated before the Civil War, and Dr. Simkins will undertake to discuss this under his title "How Old is the New South?"

Dr. Simkins, a South Carolinian by birth, received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina and his doctorate at Columbia University. He has taught at the University of North Carolina, Emory University, and Virginia State Teachers College. In the fall of 1948 he joined the staff of L.S.U., where he is now Professor of History.

In addition to his recent book on the South, Simkins has written The Tillman Movement in South Carolina (1926) and Pitchfork Ben Tillman (1944). He is co-author with R. H. Woody of South Carolina During Reconstruction (1932) and with J. W. Patton of Women of the Confederacy (1936).

The Department of History and Government is the sponsor of Dr. Simkins' visit to the campus.

**NOTE:** The dinner will be held in the Cafeteria instead of the Grill, and we have been assured that this meeting place will be both quiet and cool. Reservations can be made through Dr. J. K. Betterworth (Phone 593-W) and Professor John Redman (Phone 581-J).

An invitation is extended to all interested persons to attend, including wives and graduate students. The banquet fee of \$1.25 will be collected at the entrance; so it will not be necessary to send money in advance to make reservations. No reservations or cancellations can be made after 10 A.M., Monday, April 18.

## THE STARLING COLLECTION

Dr. Glover Moore and Dr. Harold Snellgrove, working in collaboration with Mr. Donald Thompson, the Director of the Libraries, have made a preliminary examination of the Starling Collection. This collection was the personal library of the late Mr. William Starling of Greenville, Mississippi, and has been presented as a gift to the Library of Mississippi State College. Drs. Moore and Snellgrove report that they have found among the Starling books many valuable and rare items which the college would have had great difficulty in obtaining through ordinary channels. Indeed, from the standpoint of scholarship and research, this is one of the greatest "windfalls" that has ever come to State College.

Dr. Moore has compiled a list of certain works in the Starling Collection which he thought might be of interest to the members of the Social Science departments on the campus. In our next issue Dr. Snellgrove will present an additional list, stressing especially the books written in foreign languages. Dr. Moore's list is as follows:

Government and Social Philosophy - Jeremy Bentham's Works (11 volumes); Francis Lieber's Civil Liberty and Self-Government and Political Ethics; John Stuart Mill's Representative Government and Principles of Political Economy; Bagehot's English Constitution; Lecky's History of European Morals; the complete works of Machiavelli (in Italian); and Mary Wollstonecraft's Vindication of the Rights of Women (published in 1792). Also in this field are two very valuable books by the Virginia statesman, John Taylor of Caroline: Inquiry into the Principles and Policy of the Government (published in 1814) and Construction Construed (1820).

Reference Books - Francis Lieber's edition of the Encyclopaedia Americana (1851).

Mississippiana - H. S. Fulkerson, Random Recollections of Early Days in Mississippi; Lowry and McCordle, History of Mississippi; Susan Smedes, A Southern Planter; Edward Mayes, L.Q.C. Lamar.

Memoirs, Biography, Autobiography - Memoir and Letters of Charles Sumner by Edward Pierce; Memoires de Madame Campan (in French); Memoirs of Talleyrand by Broglie (5 volumes); Memoirs of Baron Funsen; Patrick Henry by William Wirt; Roscoe's Life of Leo the Tenth and his Life of Lorenzo de Medici; History of the Princes of Conde by the Duke d'Aumale; Histoire de Saint Louis by the Sire de Joinville; Cloister Life of Charles V by Stirling; Life of St. Bernard by Morison; biographies of James Buchanan and Daniel Webster by G.T. Curtis; Memoirs of the Duke of Saint-Simon by Bayle St. John; Memoirs of C. J. Fox; John Stuart Mill's Autobiography; Hervey's Court of George II; Memoirs of Sully (in French); Memoires de Casanova (6 volumes); Memoirs of Baron Stockmar; Coxe's House of Austria; Life and Times of Silas Wright by J. D. Hammond; Life of Jefferson by George Tucker (1837); Public Men and Events by Nathan Sargent; The Life of J.J. Crittenden by his daughter; Life and Times of James Madison by Rives; Campbell's Lives of the Lord Chancellors and his Lives of the Chief Justices. From the viewpoint of an American historian, the most valuable acquisition in the Starling Collection is the Memoirs of John Quincy Adams, Vols. IV-XII, edited by C.F. Adams. This work is indispensable for research in the Middle Period of American History.

Letters, Correspondence, Journals - Writings of Thomas Jefferson, edited by T.J. Randolph (1829); Letters of Prosper Merimee to Panizzi, edited by Louis Fagan; Greville's Journals of the Reigns of George IV and William IV and Journal of the Reign of Queen Victoria; Writings of Hugh S. Legare (1846); Works of Alexander Hamilton, edited by J.C. Hamilton; Letters of Madame de Sevigne (in French - 10 vols)

American History - Political History of New York by J.D. Hammond (2 vols. 1842); History of the United States by Timothy Pitkin (2 vols., 1828); History of American Currency by William G. Sumner; The American Conflict by Horace Greeley; Democracy in America by M. de Tocqueville; Commerce of the Prairies and Journal of a Santa Fe Trader by Josiah Gregg (2 vols., 1845); History of Journalism by Frederic Hudson (1873); Expedition to the Rocky Mountains by Edwin James (1823).

European History - Travels in France by Arthur Young (Second Edition, 1794); History of the Jesuits by Nicolini; Histoire d'Italie by Guicciardini; History of the Reformation by M. d'Aubigne; History of the Girondists by Lamartine; English Gilds by Smith and Brentano; Annals of the Persecution in Scotland by Aikman; and History of the Rebellion by Clarendon (1712 Edition).

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF PHI BETA KAPPA

On April 9 Professors Bettersworth and Bryan attended the annual dinner meeting of the Northeast Mississippi Phi Beta Kappa Association, which met at Mississippi State College for Women in Columbus.

#### LECTURES

Professor W. J. Evans, of the Government Staff, spoke to the Senior Y.M.C.A. luncheon on March 29 on the subject of the Atlantic Pact.

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Mr. Dorris Rivers, Department of Sociology, addressed the Starkville Rotary Club on Friday, April 8, on some of the Social problems of the Starkville-Oktibbeha County area.

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On March 20, Dr. John K. Bettersworth spoke to the Prairie Home Demonstration Club on the subject "The Early History of Mississippi A. & M. College." Dr. Bettersworth also addressed the Sophomore Y.M.C.A. luncheon on April 5 on the subject, "The Mississippi Historical Markers Project." On April 13 he will speak to the Newman Club at State College on the subject, "Catholic Elements in Southern Culture."

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Two members of the Department of History and Government participated in a public forum sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. on Thursday, March 31, on the subject, "The North Atlantic Pact." Professor W. J. Evans discussed events leading up to the formation of the pact, and Dr. Glover Moore talked on the possibilities of the pact for preserving peace. Professor Lawrence, of the English Department, was moderator for the forum. Professor Lewis, of the English Department, and Professor Frank Watson of the Accounting Department, were the other members of the panel.

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Professor R. B. Watson of the Government Department gave two addresses during the month of March. The first was at a Y.M.C.A. forum, which dealt with the subject of "Communism in China." The second was to the Barristers Club, where Professor Watson talked on "Politics and the Law."

#### SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT SPONSORS MAY ROUND-TABLE

Dr. Weyland J. Hayes, Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt University, will be the speaker at the last Social Science Round Table of the present semester. MAY 6 This meeting will be held earlier than usual in order to avoid the last-minute rush of closing out the year's work. It will also convene on Friday instead of Monday in order to accommodate members of the Sociology Departments of Mississippi colleges and the University of Alabama who have been invited to this meeting as guests on this occasion.

Dr. Hayes is a specialist in Community Organization and Adult Education. Much of his previous training and experience has covered the educational field. It is felt that the Education staff at Mississippi State College will be especially interested in Dr. Hayes' visit.

Dr. Hayes is Past President (1948) of the Southern Sociological Society. He has written many articles and his most recent book is The Small Community Looks Ahead. The subject of Dr. Hayes address at the Round Table has not been definitely set; however, his topic will cover the general subject of community organization.

#### OSGOOD DESCRIBES METHODS OF LAND-USE SAMPLING

Dr. O. T. Osgood, of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Life, presented two contributions to research methodology in the February issue of the Journal of Farm Economics, under the heading, "Results of two Sampling Methods Used in Farm Management Research."

The new method presented by Osgood for sampling farms makes use of the most accurate and complete information about farms in a given area and includes both randomization and geographic stratification by combining the advantages of the methods of area sampling and sampling by individual farms. This method is in contrast to that of drawing the "master sample" of agriculture.

The best basis for grouping farms by kind of land, according to results presented in the article, is the "land-use-pattern" of the area; that is, the pattern resulting from the tendency for farmers to put each kind of land to the use that will give the highest net return. Dr. Osgood cites the pattern of the Northeastern Highland Area of Mississippi as an illustration and he outlines his procedure in grouping soils of the area to fit this pattern as evidence of the value of the "land-use-pattern" basis for classifying farms.

#### DR. DICKINS ATTENDS MARKETING RESEARCH MEETING

Dr. Dorothy Dickins attended the meeting of the Experiment Stations Marketing Research Advisory Committee in Washington on March 16-18. This Committee spent most of its time at the March meeting with representatives of the Office of Administrator, Research and Marketing Act and the Office of Experiment Stations, attempting to develop procedures for the handling of requests for Title II funds on the part of state experiment stations that would be mutually satisfactory to the states and the RMA office.

Dr. Dickins is a member of the Consumer Advisory Committee of the President's Council of Economic Advisers.



#### BARRISTERS CLUB

The Barristers Club held a banquet in the Grill on March 17, at which Professor Frank Watson, of the Business School, spoke on the subject "Experiences of a Prosecuting Attorney in Oklahoma." Meetings are planned for April 14 and 21. At the latter meeting John D. Greene, Jr., Circuit Judge of the Sixteenth District, will speak, with the Bar of Starkville and vicinity as guests.

#### BARNARD PUBLISHES ARTICLE

Dr. W. H. Barnard, Professor of Education, has contributed an article to the April issue of the Mississippi Educational Advance entitled, "The Status Quo." The article discusses certain aspects of educational practices in the South, particularly from the standpoint of the teacher.

#### PEDERSEN COMPLETES DOCTORATE

Mr. Harald A. Pedersen, Assistant Professor of Sociology, has just returned from Madison, Wisconsin, where he passed the final examination for the Ph.D. degree. The title of his thesis is Acculturation Among Danish and Polish Ethnic Groups in Wisconsin.

Few of us see as immediate results of our research efforts as Mr. Pedersen has seen, since the Extension Service in Wisconsin has recently hired a Polish agricultural agent to work with Polish farm people in a five county area. This move was a direct outgrowth of recommendations made in Mr. Pedersen's thesis.

#### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB

On April 7, the International Relations Club heard a lecture by Professor C. C. Macey on the subject, "Economic Problems of Russia Relative to the Outside World." Meetings will be held on April 14 and 28 at 8 p.m. in the Biology Auditorium. Political and Military aspects of the Russian problem will be discussed at these meetings.

#### WOFFORD ATTENDS SOCIAL SCIENCE MEETING

Dr. Ben M. Wofford, of the Department of Economics, will leave on April 14 for Fort Worth, Texas, where he will attend the annual meeting of the Southwest Social Science Association.

#### SOUTHERN LITERARY FESTIVAL

On April 23, Professor Augustin Magruder, of the Government staff, will attend the Southern Literary Festival at the University of Mississippi. Professor Magruder is a member of the State College "Scribblers Club", which will represent the college at the festival.

BOOKS PUBLISHED DURING MARCH

- March 1 - Centers, R., The Psychology of Social Classes (Princeton, \$3.50)  
 Creel, G., Russia's Race for Asia (Bobbs-Merrill, \$2.75)
- Mar. 2 - Greer, T.H., American Social Reform Movements: Their Pattern Since 1865  
 (Prentice-Hall, \$5.35)
- " 3 - U.N.O., Housing and Town and Country Planning (Columbia, \$1.50)
- " 7 - Schapiro, J.S., Liberalism and the Challenge of Fascism (Whittlesey  
 House, \$5.00).
- " 9 - Northrop, F.S.C., Ed., Ideological Differences and World Order (Yale \$4.50)
- " 10 - Stannard, Harold, The Two Constitutions: A Comparative Study of British  
 and American Systems. (Van Nostrand, \$3.00)
- " 14 - Proceedings of the National Council of Social Work. (Columbia, \$6.00)
- " 15 - Brucher, H., Freedom of Information, (MacMillan, \$4.00)
- " 16 - Cortney, P., The Economic Miracle, (Philosophical Library, \$3.75)
- " 16 - Wood, J.P., Magazines in the United States: Their Social and Economic  
 Influence, (Ronald Press, \$4.00)
- " 16 - Hay, H.F., Protestant Churches and Industrial America, (Harper, \$3.50)
- " 16 - Markel, Lester, and others, Public Opinion and Foreign Policy (Harper \$3.50)
- " 17 - Neill, A.S., The Problem Family (Hermitage Press, \$2.75)
- " 17 - Technical Assistance for Economic Development Available Through The  
 United Nations and the Specialized Agencies (Columbia, 80 cents)
- " 18 - Montgomery, B.L., Al Alamein to the River Sangro (Dutton, \$6.50)
- " 18 - Review of International Community Problems, 1948, by the Interim Coor-  
 dinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements. (Columbia,  
 50 cents).
- " 18 - Voznesensky, N.A., Soviet Economy During the Second World War (Inter-  
 national, \$2.25)
- " 21 - U.N.O., National Income Statistics of Various Countries, 1938-47  
 (Columbia, \$1.50)
- " 22 - Woodward, E.L., and others, Foundations for World Order (University of  
 Denver, \$3.00)
- " 23 - Cohen, S., State Labor Legislation, 1937-47, A Study of State Laws  
 Affecting the Conduct and Organization of Labor Unions. (Bureau of  
 Business Research: Ohio State, \$2.50)
- " 28 - West, R.B., Rocky Mountain Cities. (Horton, \$4.00).
- " 28 - Kent, S., Strategic Intelligence for American World Policy (Princeton,  
 \$3.00)
- " 29 - Churchill, Winston, Their Finest Hour (Houghton Mifflin, \$6.00)

## THE SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWS BULLETIN

A monthly news survey of Social Science activity at Mississippi State College, issued under the sponsorship of the Social Science Council, which consists of the departments of Economics, History & Government, and Sociology, School of Business and Industry. Edited by John K. Bettersworth, Box 148; telephone 593-W; office, Lagruder Hall, B-309.

State College, Mississippi

v. 1 # 5

May, 1949

The May issue of the Bulletin is the last of the current semester. An effort will be made to publish a summer issue around July 1 in order to bring information about Social Science activities on the campus up to date. It is hoped that we may be able to publish at that time news about departmental personnel changes and plans for the fall semester.

The editor wishes to express his appreciation to all those who have cooperated in making possible the continuation of the Bulletin. It is sincerely hoped that we may be able to enlarge and otherwise improve the Bulletin during the coming academic year.

### Visiting Sociologists Will Attend Round Table, May 6

Sociology staffs of the University of Alabama, the University of Mississippi, and the several colleges of Mississippi, will be guests of the Division of Sociology and Rural Life at the final meeting of the Social Science Round Table, to be held in the Cafeteria at 6:30 P.M., Friday, May 6. The Division of Sociology and Rural Life, headed by Dr. Harold Kaufman, is sponsoring the program for this meeting.

As was announced in the April Bulletin, Dr. Weyland J. Hayes, Professor of Sociology at Vanderbilt, will be the guest speaker. Dr. Hayes is a specialist in the problems of rural community life and his talk will deal with some aspect of that subject. Dr. Hayes is well known as an able and entertaining speaker, and we have been assured that all who attend this meeting may expect a profitable evening.

**NOTE:** Reservations for the dinner (\$1.25 per plate) may be made by card or telephone call to Dr. John K. Bettersworth, (telephone 593-W), or Professor John C. Redman (telephone 581-J) before 4 P.M., Thursday, May 5.

### Bettersworth, Moore and Sawyer in Who's Who Publication

Three members of the Department of History and Government have been selected for inclusion in the new edition of Who's Who in the South and Southwest, a new publication sponsored by the Merriam Company, publisher of Who's Who in America. They are Dr. John K. Bettersworth, Dr. Glover Moore, and Professor R. T. Sawyer.

### Carter to Make Radio Talk

Dr. W. P. Carter will speak over Station WSSO at 5:15 on Friday, May 6, on the subject of the Sociology program at Mississippi State College. Dr. Carter's talk is sponsored by the School of Business and Industry, which is responsible for the program on that day.

#### Kaufman Contributor to Sociology Textbook

An excerpt from a study conducted by Dr. Harold Kaufman on "Prestige Classes" in the New York "World Community" has been included in a chapter on "Sociology Research Technique" in a new book of readings in Sociology edited by R. W. O'Brien and Clarence Schrag, and published by Houghton Mifflin.

#### Mrs. Rivers Talks on Parapsychology

Mrs. Olivia Rivers, wife of Professor Dorris Rivers, spoke to the faculty YMCA luncheon on April 25 on the subject of experiments she has been conducting in cooperation with Dr. J. B. Rhine of Duke University. Mrs. Rivers demonstrated some of the tests that are being given in connection with the Duke experiments in extra-sensory perception.

#### Magruder Attends Management Meeting

Professor Augustin Magruder represented the Department of History and Government at the sessions of the Southern Management Conference held on the State College campus, April 28-29 under the sponsorship of the local chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management. One of the speakers on this program was Gerald D. Morgan, a legal consultant who was largely responsible for writing the Taft-Hartley Act.

#### F.B.I. Agent Speaks to Sociology Classes

Special Agent Glen E. Trusty, Jr., who was on the campus of Mississippi State College Wednesday, April 27, conducted a number of lectures and discussions with students in the School of Business and Industry. He spoke to the Accounting classes of Mr. W. W. Littlejohn and to the classes in Social Work, Criminology, and Family in the Sociology Department.

#### Mrs. Pedersen Lectures in Sociology

Mrs. Harald Pedersen, whose husband is Assistant Professor of Sociology, is teaching Educational Sociology in the Adult Education Workshop now in session on the campus. Mrs. Pedersen will also teach this course during the 6-week summer session at Mississippi State.

#### Library Survey

Dr. Harold Kaufman, Thomas E. Bailey Professor of Rural Life; Mr. Donald Thompson, Director of Libraries; and Professor Forrest Mills, of the Department of Adult Education, have been asked to serve as consultants on a state-wide library survey, which is being sponsored by the State Department of Education, the State Library Commission and the University of Mississippi. The survey, which has just been initiated, will be conducted during the next year.



## Members of Agricultural Economics Department Attend Meetings

Dr. R. J. Saville, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, attended a regional Dairy Marketing meeting at Birmingham, Alabama, on April 27-28. Dr. Saville was accompanied by Prof. B. K. Doyle and Mr. A. J. Garbarino.

Mr. W. D. Christian, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, attended a Poultry Marketing meeting at Birmingham, Alabama, April 29-30.

## Barrister's Club

The Barrister's Club heard a lecture by Prof. C. E. Lawrence on "Leadership" on May 28. At the final meeting of the year on May 12, the club will hold a banquet at which an out of town lawyer will be guest speaker.

Professor Augustin Magruder, who is one of the Club's sponsors, recently spent a day observing activities of the University of Mississippi Law School.

## Contributions in Psychology by Dr. Aleck

Dr. Adolph W. Aleck is author of the textbook Educational Psychology which has recently been adopted at Peabody College. He has also contributed data for a study on ethical standards sponsored by the American Psychological Association, and has completed an assignment for the association involving revision of norms for the Strong Test. Dr. Aleck recently contributed a report to Psychological Abstracts on Meng's "Zwang und Freiheit in der Erziehung". On April 29-30, he attended a New Orleans meeting of the American Association on Mental Deficiency. Dr. Aleck has recently been elected a member of the Gerontological Society.

## Sinkins Talks on Enduring Characteristics of the South

Dr. Francis B. Sinkins, Professor of History at L.S.U., addressed the April meeting of the Social Science Round Table, which was sponsored by the Department of History and Government. Dr. Sinkins pointed out that far from losing its identity in the present standardized form of life in America, the South persisted in being itself, and in his opinion would continue to do so. Mustering a remarkable array of peculiar social and cultural features of the South, Dr. Sinkins very adequately documented his assertion in a lecture that was both witty and informative.

## Mrs. Bailey Speaks to Government Students

Mrs. Thomas L. Bailey, State Tax Collector, whose main task is collecting the Black Market Tax, spoke to classes in State Government on Tuesday afternoon, April 26, under the sponsorship of the Department of History and Government.

Professor Sawyer introduced Mrs. Bailey, who spoke briefly on the organization and operation of her office and answered questions from the floor concerning her work.

## Delegates to A.A.U.P. Meeting

Robert B. Watson, Asst. Prof. of Government, was a delegate to the A.A.U.P. District meeting at the University of Alabama, April 29-30. Professor John Redman, of the Department of Agricultural Economics, was also a delegate.

## Lectures

Dr. J.K. Bettersworth addressed the freshman "Y" luncheon, April 29, on the subject "Religious Toleration". Dr. Bettersworth will also deliver a commencement address on Monday, May 16, at the Palmetto High School in Reform, Alabama.

Professor Howard Nicely spoke on April 6 at the Junior YMCA luncheon on the subject "Personal Adjustments: From the Cradle to the Grave." Professor Nicely dealt in particular with problems of adjustment that students have to face.

Dr. W. P. Carter spoke before the YMCA Senior luncheon on April 26 concerning the problem of Social Welfare Services in Mississippi.

Mr. Dorris Rivers, of the Department of Sociology, delivered a commencement address at the Shady Grove High School, near Laurel, on April 19.

Dr. Harold Kaufman delivered a commencement address at Hatley, in Monroe County, April 28.

Dr. Adolph Aleck, Associate Professor of Psychology, spoke at the Ackerman High School on Senior Day, April 15. He will deliver the commencement address at Hamilton High School, May 13.

C. E. Cain, Associate Professor, Education, will speak to the Jackson County Historical Society at Pascagoula, on May 3. This society is trying to get the old Jackson County Courthouse set aside as an historical museum.

## Summer Plans

Dr. Glover Moore of the Department of History and Government will continue research on his book on the Missouri Controversy, 1819-1821, by working during the summer in the Library of Congress, and the Libraries of the New York Historical Society, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and the Missouri Historical Society. Dr. Moore has already begun work on the final draft of the first chapters of his book.

Professor Norman Wier, of the Department of Economics, will spend the summer at the University of North Carolina, where he will be engaged in work on his doctorate.

Prof. F. V. McMillen of the Department of History and Government will be on leave during the summer and fall semesters in order to complete his doctorate at the University of Texas. His dissertation will be on the subject of British investments in Mississippi, particularly the Delta & Pine Land Company.

Mr. Howard Nicely, Assistant Professor of Sociology, will do graduate work at Ohio State University during the summer.

*BOOK NEWS-- The Starling Collection (continued)*

The William Starling Collection, which now belongs to Mississippi State College, is the result of years of searching by an experienced bibliophile. Although on first inspection it appeared that Mr. Starling was primarily interested in the Greek and Roman classics, that was not at all the case. In addition, this collection of rare old books contains many works written in Italian, French, German, Arabic, and Hebrew. It is especially valuable for the period of the Renaissance and Reformation. Since this survey of ours is merely a preliminary one, no attempt is made for completeness. We have, however, thought it wise to list a few of the more noteworthy items.

In the Greek collection there is a set of Greek authors published at Leipzig in 1829. Among other interesting items will be found the complete writings of Plato, translated by Victor Cousin and published in Paris in 1831; the tragedies of Euripides, edited by Samuel Musgrave

and published at Oxford, England, in 1778; the poems of Pindar, edited by Augustus Boeckh and issued at Leipzig in 1811; and Pausanias' Descriptio Graeciae, edited by John Henry Christian Schubart and published at Leipzig in 1867. The works of Demosthenes, Aeschylus, Polybius, Longinus, Xenophon, Plutarch, Strabo, Homer, Thucydides, and others are also represented.

As the Eastern Roman Empire faded into the Byzantine Empire, the ancient Greek language underwent a transformation. Among the Byzantine Greek writers are to be found the works of Eustathius, Die of Halicarnassus, Photius, Dio Cassius, and Clement of Alexandria. The publication dates on these works range from the middle of the sixteenth century through the nineteenth.

Although the ancient Latin authors, such as Vergil, Lucan, Ovid, Plautus, Terence, Lucretius, Cicero, and others are included, the most valuable part of the Latin collection centers around the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Reformation. Several medieval, renaissance and reformation titles are interesting. There is, for example, the beautiful little volume of the works of Ausonius of Bordeaux, published in Paris in 1730. Of equal value and beauty, however, are the Life and Letters of Saint Ambrose, published at Florence in 1759; Polyarpus Leysorius' Historia Poetarum et Paganorum Mudli Aevi, published at Halle in 1721; Antonio Panormita's Alphonso Rex Aragoniae, published at Amsterdam in 1646; Jacob Augustus Thuanus, Historia sui Temporis, published at Geneva in 1620; Anthony Wood's immortal Historia et Antiquitates Oxoniensis, published at Oxford in 1674; D. Philippus Pincinellus' Mundus Symbolicus, published at Cologne in 1680; the Epistolae Familiares of the 16th century classical scholar Jonah Camerarius, published at Frankfurt, 1583; the De Magorum Daemonomania of the great 16th century French lawyer, Jean Bodin, published at Frankfurt in 1590; Thomas Sanchez's Disputationes de Sancto Matrimonii Sacramento, published at Geneva in 1602; Franciscus Robortelli on Aristotle's Art Poetica, published at Florence by Lorenzo Torrentini, printer to Cosimo de Medici, 1546; Politian's works, published at Lyons, 1545; a tract on Melancthon, published at Wittenberg in 1563; the Orationes, Invektivae, and Epistolae of the Italian humanist, Poggio, published at Cologne(?) in 1508; a tract concerning the heresy of Queen Elizabeth, published at Lyons in 1593; Lorenzo Valla's treatise on the elegancies of the Latin language, published at Antwerp in 1557, and many others.

There is a surprisingly large number of books written in Italian. Among these are the Letters of Pietro Bembo, Giovanni Tarabochia's nine-volume Storia della Letteratura Italiana, the five-volume Manuale de Petrarca, and representative titles from Bruno, Dante, Metastasio, Ariosto, Tasso, Boccaccio, Aretino, Machiavelli, Guicciardini, and others.

In addition to works of Racine, La Bruyere, Voltaire, Musset, Balzac, Marot, Montesquieu, La Fontaine, Racine, Berenger, Corneille, Moliere, Rousseau, Saint Simon, Mme de Sevigne, and others, the French collection includes the Swiss historian Sismondi's Republics of Italy during the Middle Ages (14 vols.), and the first two volumes of Montalembert's authoritative Monks of the West.

For the student of the Middle Ages, there are two glossaries of medieval Latin words: W.H. Maigne d'Arnis, Glossarium Manuale ad Scriptores Mediae et Infimae Latinitatis, and DuCagne's equally valuable Glossarium Mediae et Infimae Latinitatis. Two other books, both in Latin, may be mentioned at this point: Justinian's Corpus Juris Civilis and Hugo Grotius' De Jure Belli.

The value of the Starling Collection cannot be overemphasized. Among the early printing presses about six were outstanding: the Aldine Press at Venice, the Froben Press at Basle, the Estienne Press at Paris, the Plantin Press at Antwerp, the Elzevir Press at Amsterdam, and the Caxton Press in England. The Starling Collection contains at least one publication by each of these presses, except that of Caxton. There is one volume of Latin writings from Aldine in 1519. This book, though slightly damaged, is printed in the type Aldus Manutius modeled after the beautiful handwriting of Petrarch. Besides this volume, there are: from the Froben Press a two-volume set of Eustathius' Commentary on the Iliad and Odyssey of Homer (1560); from the Elzevir press a copy of Erasmus' Familiaria Colloquia (1679); from the Plantin Press a copy of Stromatius' Greek Proverbs (1600); and two Etienne books, one of them a work of Erasmus.

Mississippi State College is fortunate in having received this outstanding collection of books. Many are show items, worthy to be displayed prominently in our new library. -H.S. Snellgrove

